# ROSE, AND

### DELIVERED AT THE

LECTVRE,

In A s H B Y della-zouch in the County of Leicester.

By WILLIAM PARKS,

Master of Arts, and curat of Chelaston in the County of Dearey.

ללמור ללמד

Discendum propter docendum.

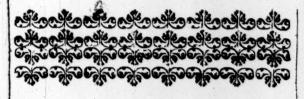


LONDON,

Printed by John Norton, for George Wilne, 1639.

Janil Hott John.





HENRY Earle of Huntingdon, Lord Hastings, Hungerford, Borreaulx, Molins and Moules, and Lord Lieuenan of his Majestes County of Leicester, and Rutland, my Honoured

Right HONOVRABLE,

want of Bookes in these daies of ours, wherein they doe so much abound, that moves mee to publish these my weake labours, nor yet any desire I have to shew myself

## The Epiftle

in Print, Jam too fible of mine owne imperfections, to be defirous to shew them to the World. But confidering my engagments (efpecially to your Honour and not willing to be altogether guilty of that hatefull sinne of ingratitude, but knowing noother way to expresse my thankefulnes I have pitched upon this, chooseing rather to shew my selfe a weake man, then ingratefull. I must confesse I had rather besilent, then be seen in Print. And my small for. tunes, had made me as dejected in person as J was in place, untill it pleased your Honour!

### Dedicatory.

Honour to cast the beames of your countenance on mee ( in giving mee part of this Lecture where these Sermons were preached) which made me a little erigere caput, to peepe up, and shew my selfe, if to no other end then this (to expresse my thankfulnes it were a sufficient cause to move mee to it. I have heere endevoured to give unto your Honour not only what Æschines gaveun. to Socrates (me ipsu) but even Deumipsum: for it is an unfolding of some part of those Mysteries that concerne Christ; of whom your Honour is a livelie member in

his Church militant, and will be untill you are a full partaker of all his benefits in the Church triumphant, which that your Honour may be is the prayer of

Your Lordships dayly Orator,

and most humbly devoted Chaplaine.

WILLIAM PARKES.

# The Præface to

Will use no Præface but onely say as Ruffinus did to Laurentius , Mihi quidem ad scribendum animus tam non est cupidus, quam nec Idoneus, scienti non esse absque periculo, multorum judiciis ingemum teme & exile committere. And indeed when I first pend these sermons, I did not intend to put them to the Presse, nor to expose my selfe and them to (that which the World is too full of) censure. But finding some part of it in the delivering of them (as namely for the urging of fathers in Latine in my Sermons, esc.) for which I have beene traduced behinde my back, and persuaded to my face to leave them, I could therefore doe no leffe (for the justifying of my selfe and the satis-

a Interopa Cyp.
habetur pag.
543.

b Lib. 6. Satur

. |

c'Terent Eunuch.prolog. d Eccles.1.9.

fying of others) then commit them to the eye, as I did to the eare, to fee whether they deserue any Pragmaticall cenjure. It is a truc observation of Macrobius , that Multa ignoramus, quæ non laterent, si veterum lectio nobis esse familiaris, wee are ignorant of many things which would not be hid unto us, if the reading of ancient priters were familiar with us, yet such is the humor of some, that nothing can please them except it be plaine and delivered ex tempore from mens owne braynes, without any ground or light from any ancient fathers. Though nullum est jam dictum quod non dictum fit prius c, There is no new thing under the Sunned: yet fuch is the condition of these Athenians that they are altogether for novelties, which makes their itching eares to be delighted with new fange led teachers, which preach the Chymaraes of their owne braynes, altogether neglecting the fathers of the Church. If Prayers or Sermons be pend, they are presently sleigh= ted, and the more paynes are taken in them, the

the lesse acceptance have they with these men. I know no reason he had to teare out the Athanasian Creed out of his bible; when it was read in the Church, but onely to fatiffy his owne humour, and as little that our Novelists have to except against our Church liturgy, except it bee for that suffrage: from all blindnes of heart, from pride, vaine glory, and hypocrify, from envy, has tred and malice, and all uncharitablenes! Good Lord deliver us : which is a great part of their Religion. And I know leffe reason for any to censure sorashly, as to fay, that a pend Sermon never converted foule: for I dare prefume to maintaine, that many have beene converted by reading, and I thinke it must bee pend before it be printed, and written before it be read. Wee read in the Gospelle: that Christ turned water into wine, hee might as eafily have filled the vessells with wine, as made them to bee filled with water first : but to fignify that hee will not fill those empty vessells, that come unfurnished into the pulpit, and looke

e John, 3.

looke then for Revelations. But if it were lawfull at other times to preach quicquid in buccam venerit, yet is it very unfit for a Lecture in Divinity, for a Lecture doth confist of a mixt auditory, and must have as well meat as milke, that the learned may have Strength by the one as the ignorant have growth by the other. Againe a Lecture (as I conceave ) was at the first founded for the explayning of the fundamentall poyntes of Religion, and the handling of controversies in the University, and so are continued by men of great learning and eminence, the publique professors. And in Queene Elizabeths dayes ( as I conjecture.) Lectures were permitted in Parochiall Churches, not commanded or injoyned (for I read of Parsons, Vicars, and Curates in the booke of common Prayer but not of a Lesturer ) neither were they suffered to this end to draw eare-Christians and lip-professors together to parlee in a parlour of poynts of Divinity which they un= derstand not, and of matters of Church

discipline that doe not concerne them, but to build the people up in knowledge, and to handle matters of controverly, and then in points of controversy, and explicating of difficult points of Divinity, the fathers are very fit to bee urged. But it is an unknowne tongue, and the Apostle sayth :: that edifyes not, and therefore Latin is not fit to bee used. I answer, it edifyes the learned if not interpreted, but if interpreted it edifyes the Church 8, and if it were unlawfull to speake in an unknowne tongue altogether, why should S. Pauls practice contradict his precept? for hee writes to the Romans and Hebrewes in Greeke, when Latin was the language of the one, and Hebrew the language of the other. But Ob. it takes up a great deale of time, Not so Ans. much time as many usually spend in vaine Tautologies, and idle repetitions, which stand like ciphers to fill up empty places in their Sermons. But it would please better without them. Indeed if a Lecturer were to live like the poore and the blind meerely

f 1 Cor.14 24

Anf.

g Aret in 1.

h Terence.

Ob.

i Epift. 18. & con ca Petit. lib.

Anf.

k Hocker Ecc!. Pol. lib. 2.6,7.

by collection, then bappily hee must preach to please his good Masters: or else hee would loose a great part of his living. But Sermons are not to be made as some Commædians made their Playes. Populo ut placerent quas fecissent fabulas h, And yet (for ought I know ) Sermons with Latin in them may please as well (and better) as those without it. But S. Austin him= selfe bids not to hearken what Rogatus, Donatus, vincentius, Hylary. Ambrose Sayth, but what sayth the Lord? But S. Augustines purpose is not k (I thinke) when he bids us not to heare men that we should stop our eares against his owne exhortation, and therefore he cannot meane simply; that audience should be denyed unto men, but either if men speake one thing, and God another, then he, not they is to be obeyed, or if they both speake one thing, then also mans speech is unworthy of hearing, not fimply, but in compari-Son. But Lastly, it may be objected the Scriptures of themselves are sufficent for salvation and justification. And therefore there is no

use

05.

use of Fathers in Sermons. It is true that the Scriptures are able to make us wife to falvation: but such is the dulnes of our understanding that we cannot understand the difficult places of it without an interpretor. I confesse I had rather light my dim Lamp at their lights, and take an interpretation from them; then from many moderne writers, and will alwayes use them, and dispise new non licensed Pamphlets, that may breed faction and irregularity in the hearers. So that Fathers are not such a Bugbeare lut a man may looke on them without frighting, and borrow their golden sentences, as the Israelites did borrow from the Ægiptians Iewells of Silver, and Iewells of Gold. Which may appeare by example, reason, and Scripture. By example, thus, All the Fathers and (almost) all moderne writers doe it, even they themselves that deny it will use moderne writers, how is Calvin urged in defence of ujury, and a= gainst Church government and then why may not we cite the Fathers? By reason thus.

12

Inf.

1/

I Dofter West faling in his Sermon, preached at Oxford Anne. 1582.

m Ads 17 18. n I Cor.15 33. o Tit. 1.12

p Aret.lockom. de Lect. Ethin.

g Lib s. contra.

If it bee lawfull to read them it is lawfull to cite them', and if it be lawfull to read later writers (which I know none that doth deny ) then why not them? except they may bee read for their manner of tractation, and not for their matter. By Scripture thus. The Apostles and our Saviour too bring sentences of the Prophets in the new Testament, which were interpretors of the Law, and why may not wee bring fentences of the fathers which are interpretors of the Gospell? Nay S. Paul brings fentences from the Poets: viz. from Aratus ": Menander": and Epimenides o: fo that wee may rob the prophane Poets of their ornaments P: and confecrate them to Christ, much more may we take Sentences from the holy Fathers. Besides there are Hebrew and Syriack words used in the new Testament without interpreting; as Anathema, Maranatha, Holanna, and Cephas, which might occasion Optatus Milivitanus (for ought I know) to thinke Peter 3: to bee the head of the Church hee thinking it to be a Greeke word and derived

from separi a head when as it is a Sirack word and signifyes a stone: but there can bee no danger in any mistake in urging sentences of the Fathers being interpreted. So that though we doe not bring any grounds of faith from them, yet it is lawfull and fitting to urge them. First, for interpretation of hard Texts. Secondly, for illustration. Thirdly, for confutation of errors as our Saviour quotes t: the Pharilees. Fourthly, for instances, and. Fiftly, we may use them comparatively, and bring the fayings and examples of Heathen to Thame Christians. I had thought to have fayd more but fearing least my porch should be too big for my house, & that this book should be like the City Minda with too great gates, I conclude, wishing thee and all good Christi= ans to doe that, that shall tend to the glory of God and the peace of the Church, Farewell.

r Mat 23.

From my fludy in Chellafton, MAX.28 1638.

e

d

g; id

us

ke

ed om Thine in the Lord Jesus.

WILLIAM PARKES.





# ROSE AND

Solomons Song. 2. 1.

f am the Rose of Sharon, and the Lily of the Valleys.

HE summe of mans duty to God consists in the keeping of the ten Commandements which (for the brevity of them) Moses, that man of God, calles a words; ten words: our Saviour Christ reduceth those ten

a Exod 34. 28,

to two: and the Apostle S. Paul reduceth those two to one, when he sayes:

b Golatie 14

that b love is the fulfilling of the Law. But all love is not lovely in us, nor likeing to God: for as there is the love of God; so there is the love of our selves, and the love of the world, which two

c Gen 41.21.

d 2Chron-9.12

e Pio.v 1.7

f Eccles 1 4

and the love of the world, which two last, like Pharaohs leane kine ', eat up and devour the former, and yet are never the better; and therefore they must bee pruned away, that the former may be grafted in. Now Solomon (who paffed all the Kings of the earth in wifdome) wrote three books; the booke of the Proverbs, to prune away the love of our selves; we must not thinke our selves to be wiser than all others, and despise instruction lest wee prove fooles: And the booke of Ecclesiastes, to prune away the love of the world: because f all is but vanity and vexation of spirit. Cum enim duo sunt mala, quæ vel so= la vel maxime militant adversus animum, vanus scilicet amor mundi, et superfluus sui, pesti veriq, duo illi libri obviare noscuntur, saith S. Bernard &. Whereas there are two evills, which either folely or cheifely doe fight against the soule, to wit, the vaine love of the world, and the over-weaning love of our selves; those two Bookes yeeld a remedy for each malady: Alter sarculo disciplinæ prava quæq; in moribus, et superflua carnis rese= cans; alter luce rationis in omni gloria mundi fucum vanitatis sagaciter deprehendens, ve= raciterq; distinguens à solido veritatis: The one by the pruning-hooke of instruction cuts off the rudenesse of manners, and the superfluous desires of the flesh; the other by the light of reason doth quickly apprehend the smoake of vanity in the glory of the world, and diftinguish it from the truth: And he wrote this third booke of the Canticles, to ingraffe the love of God in our hearts. As the inmost part of the Temple was called h the Sanctum Sanctorum, the Holy of Holiesas being the Most holy place, so is this B 2

of

6=

m,

us

g In Cant: Ser. 1

h Heb 9.3 Exod 26. 34. 4

i 1 Kings 4 23.

k Sol. Song. 1 2

1 Calvin.

m Mat. 12 42.

this booke called Canticum canticorum, the Song of Songs from the excellency of it, as being the cheefest Song, not only of Solomons (who wrote: a thousand and five ) but also the most excellent Song that ever was pend, as describing the union and Communion betweene Christ and his Church more excellently and elegantly then any other. The pen-man of this booke is Solomon, which is a name of peace: he begins his booke with a kiffe, which is a figne of peace: and the whole subject of the booke is love, which is I fomentum pacis, the fomentation of peace; for it is a Divine Epithalamium, or marriage song upon the holy nuptialls betweene Christ and his Church. And although some (perhapps) would understand it literally of the marriage betweene Salomon and Pharaohs daughter: yet as our Saviour Christ said once," a greater then Salomon is here; so may I say now, a greater then Solomon is here meant, and a Spowle Spowse farr more glorious and beautifull, then Pharoahs daughter. As there. were two Alexanders, the one Apellis 0= pus, the other Philippi filius, the one portrayed by Apelles, being unmarchable for the skilfulnes of the art, the other the sonne of Philip, being invincible for the valour of his heart: 10 there were two Solomons, the one typricall, the other mysticall; the one the wisest among the sonns of men, and yet but a man; the other excelling all men, for he" was annoynted with the oyle of gladnes above his fellowes, being both God and man, and he it is that is chiefly spoken of in this booke, which fets downe the mutuall and reciprocall love betweene him and his Church. Now the Scripture mentioneth othe Bride, the Bride-Groome, and the friends of them both, and all these in this Song (especially the two former) are brought in as speakers every one of and unto others. The Text that I have cholen is

n Pfal. 45. 7.

Anfivorth on the Can's

B 3

11

1-

a-

a-

vse

the.

p Em. Sa. in

the speech either of Christ, or of th Church; for in respect of both it may be said, I am the Rose of Sharon, and the Lily of the valleys.

I have all this while but shewed you the Trees, I shall now give you of the Fruit; and open the shell, that you may tast the sweetnes of the kernell: wee have hitherto, as in hortis inclusis, stood without, I shall now bring you into the Spoules garden, where you may gather Roses, and feed on Lilies. The words conteyne three parts First, Subje= Etum, a Subject, in the first word, I, and that is either Christ, or the Church. Secondly, Subjecti Attributa, the attributes of this subject, the Rose and the Lily. Thirdly, Attributorum Limitatio, the Limitation of these Attributes, the Rose of Sharon, and the Lilly of the valleys. I will begin first with the best Subject, and Thew you wherein Christ doth refemble the Rose of Sharon: for of him doh S. Hierome and others q expound the Text. Moft

q Orig. Bernard Amb. Angelom, et Doctor Dove in Licum.

Most of the Fathers following the version of the Septuagint, in stead of, I am the Rose of Sharon, read it, I am the Flower of the field; and thus S. Amb. expounds it: Ante suam incarnationem Salvator in Angeli persona Patriarchis et Prophetis loquendo, solus cui nullus similis inter Angelos, Thronos, Dominationes, et Po= testates, omnibus admirandus, singularis flos in toto colorum campo coruscans, probatur. When our Saviour spake to the Patriarks and Prophets in the person of the Angels, he shewed himselfe to be the chiefe sweet-smelling Flower of Heaven, having none like him among the Angels Thrones, Dominions or Powers. But, as a precious stone lying hid in the earth, or as a lewell being locktupina casket, though it be glorious and beautifull in it selfe, yet is not beneficiall unto us, untill it be digged or taken out for our use; So though Christ were alwaies glorious in himselfe, while he was yet infinu Patris

r Apud Ange-

in

f John 1. 18.

# Gen.3. 15.

# Mat 13.46.

w Arias montan. Paguin

in the bosome of his Father, and Gods goodnes was great in that Christ was promifed as soone as man had sinned, that ' the feed of the Woman should breake the head of the Serpent ; yet was not this mercy so apparent and manifest unto us, untill the fulfilling of those gracious promises made to the Patriarches untill CHRIST came into the wombe of his mother, and this pearle" of price was (as it were) taken out of the Cafket, untill he was incarnate and made man for man: and therefore give mee leave to speake of this sweete smelling flower as he flourished upon earth, and to follow the last and best translation which renders the word הבצלח Chabatfaleth as it properly " fignifies the Rose; for Christ doth resemble the Rose in three respects. First the rednes and the prickles of the Rose do represent unto us Christs passion. Secondly, the sweet fmell of the Rose notes unto us his comfortable doctrine, and sweet conversation

on upon earth. Thirdly, the Rose lying dead in winter, but budding out againe in spring, signifies his resurrection from the dead: in these respects he resembles the Rose. And first of the first, the rednes and prickles of the Rose represent Christs passion.

Not only Pliny, but experience teachethus, that the Rose Tree is very full of prickles fo was the life of Christ, from his cratch to his croffe it was even a continuall paffion, and therefore in the Creed Christs suffering doth immediatly follow his birth. He is no sooner borne into the World, but Herod seekes to fend him out againe; as soone as he hath life, he seekes to put him to death, and y destroyes all the children of Bethlehem, that he might destroy him; as the Apostle Paul sayes of himselse , so may I say of him, He was in wearines and painfulnes, in watchings often, in hanger and thir I in fastings often. But these were but the beginnings of forrow, in respect

15

et

1-

tion x Liber. 2 cop.4

y Mat. 2. 16.

2 2 Cor.11 27

a Mar. 26.36.

b Luke 9.36

c Mat.26.39.

d Mat 11.29.

e Gen.3. 19.

of that which he felt at his paffion: these were but dropps in respect of that shower: these were but skirmishes, in respect of that battaile: these prickles did but peirce his Skin, those his Heart; thesewounded his Body, those his Soule: the sufferings of his Body, were but the Body of his sufferings, but the sorrow of his Soule, was the Soule of his forrow. Goe with him to " Gethsemane, and see his agony in the garden, and you shall see our propitiatory sacrifice (though men were made upright) lye flat on the earth: he that had no place b wherein to lay his Head, could easily finde a place whereon to lay 'his Face, even on the ground: he that bids us to d take his yoke on us, for it is easy; and his burthen, for it is light, being to take on him the yoke of our finns, he found it to be paynfull, and our burthen heavy: the first Adam was to eat his bread in the sweat of his face, and the second Adam being to satisfy for sinne ( for which

which that was a curse ) used the sweat of his Face, and that no ordinary, but an extraordinary sweat, even dropps of bloud: by and by comes in Indas that traitour, with company to apprehend him: he was once an Apostle, but he went out from Bethel to Betharah, from the house of God to the house of confusion, and sold his master for a little money: valuing his head, at leffe then an affes head was valued at, at the siege of Samaria, for that was sold for fourescore peeces of silver, and Christ but h for thirty. Goe along with him to Gabbatha, and see his sufferings in the high Priests Hall: before he comes thither, his Disciples k forlooke him, but Peter followed him a farr off to deny him: he that cured the Eyes of the blind by annoynting them " with clay and spittle, had his own spit on to put them out : he was derided and was "dumb that had cured the dumb: though he purchased for us a Crowne of glory, yct

0

ce

 $\mathsf{nd}$ 

2-

ad

nd

or

ch

f Luke 23 44

g 2 Kings 6.25 h Mat. 26. 15

i John 19 13.

k Mat. 16.56

1 Luke 22, 44.

57. m Jehn 9 6

n Ifay 53 7.

o Matth 27.29.

P Mat 21.9,

g Market 5.13 v Matth. 21.8

SMat. 27.35

t Luke 23 22

# John 19.17.

w Moffreth Post. Dom. post. 1 Oct. P.sfch. yet was he himselfe o crowned with a crowne of Thornes: the multitudes cry of P Hosanna, is altered and turned to Crucifige; 9 crucify him: in stead of spreading their garments in his way, they part his garments among them : hee that suffered for sinners, was condemned by finners: the most righteous judge of the World, was condemned by the most unjust judge in the World; even Pilate, though he had pronounced him guiltles ' three times, will condemne himselfe rather then not condemn him. Goe on with him to "Golgotha, and fee the Catastrophe of his tragedy on Mount (alvary: and you shall see that he that suffered for all sinnes, suffered in all his fenses: Sustinuit in tactu clavorum asperitatem, in auditu opprobriorum confusionem, in odoratu sputorum fæditatem, in gustu aceti et fellis amaritudinem, in oculis lacrimarum effusionem : " his Eyes faw his most cruell enemies, his Eares heard their bitter revilings, his Nofe smelt the ftinke

stinke of the place, his taste tasted the bitternes of the Gall and Myrrhe: his feeling felt the accuratenes of the torments he was put to. He that suffered for all kindes of men, suffered from all kindes of men, Kings, Priests, People, rich and poore, men and women. And he that suffered for all persons, suffered in all the parts of his Body, we may \* fay in genere (for we cannot count the species) that he suffered from all kinde of men all kind of payne, in every kinde of subject: that is, in his fame, his honour, his goods, his Soule and Body. His Head that did wear a Crowne of Majesty, was crowned with Thornes; his Eyes that were y as the Eyes of Doves upon the Rivers of waters, were dazled with blowes; his Cheekes that were as a bed of Spices, and sweet Flowers, were defiled with spittings, and buffetted with fifts; his Hands that had cured diseases, had now need to be cured themselves; they that were as rings of Gold had now rings made

is is

rd

he

ke

x Mr. Aufins meditations for good Friday

y Sol. Song. 5

7 Sol. Song. 5.

a Ibidoer 14

b Luke 7. 38 John 11.2.

c Efay I. 6.

d De Paff. Dompag. 1219.

e Destrutto rei-

f Phil 2.9.

made in them by the Nayles: his Feete that were washed with Maryes teares, and wiped with the hayres of her head, were nayled to the Croffe: we had no whole part about us by reason of our fins, neither had heany whole part about him by reason of his sores, but this Rosetree was full of prickles, from the bottome to the top: even from the sole of the foot to the crowne of the Head there was no foundnes, but wounds, and bruises and putrifying fores. It is observed by S. Bernard, 4 that all that Christ suffered in the time of his exinanition, is to be referred to the rednes of his passion, and the often essusion of his bloud was the better colouring of this Rose. Which precious bloud of his was shed seaven severall times to free us from the leaven deadly fins, ( or rather from all the deady finnes ( wherewith we were defiled. First, in (ircum: cifione, when hee was circumcifed and had his name given him ( that f name above

above all names ) to be called & Iesus: Proptered quod tum puram salvationem Sanguinis fundere inciperet, qui in completione salutis nostræ totus erat effundendus, saith S. Bernard. h Because he did then begin to shed his bloud for our salvation, which was wholly to be shed for the perfecting of it. Secondly, he shed his bloud in sudore, when he sweat drops of bloud in the Garden', which did not onely distillare, droppe downe guttatim drop by drop, but decurrere, it ran downe in so great abundance, that it was sufficient to colour this Rose perfeetly red. A third effusion of his bloud for the colouring the Rose of his passion, was in alapizatione, in his buffetting: inchairon and infamous fay the Evangelists, co= laphis & alapis cadebant eum, they buffetted him and smote him, and that in his Face and Neck with the palmes of their hands, and their fifts fay fome," or else with fifts and clubs say other; " so that it is very likely o that the bloud flowed

e

g Luke 22. 1.

h Ithi prins.

i Luke 22 44.

k Mat. 26 67.

Marke Chap. 14. In A.ct. in A.ct. in Mr. Cap. 27 in Braned in Conc. Even g. Tom 40 liv 6. Cap. 2. O Stells in Luc. Cap. 21.

p John 19.1

. q Ariflot.

r Ludolph de vita Carefti f Barrad. To 4lib.7. cap. 6.

de Sanet. in die Parasceves.

v Do. Gwillams 7. Gold Candlesticks treat. of the passion.

flowed both from his nostrills and mouth, though the Evangelists expresse it not totidem verbis. Fourthly, his bloud was shed in Flagellatione, when he was scourged by Pilatei How great a quantity of bloud (thinkeyou) must flow from the mor pure and tender Body that ever was ( for, quo complexio Nobi= lior, & mens dexterior, eo tenerior effe fo= let caro a, the more noble the complexion, and the more nimble the apprehenfion, so much the more tender is the Skin ) How much bloud (I say) must flow from this most tender Body, when the number of his wounds was, as fome fay, five thousand fourthundred and ninety, as others ; five thousand foure hundred seventy and five : or as others', five thousand foure hundred and fixty, according to the verses: Sex= aginta & Quadraginta superaddito millia quing; : tot fuerat Christus pro nobis vulnera passus. Or at the least say they that say leaft", fix hundred and fixty, according

to the number of a band of souldiers. A 5th effusion of his bloud was in Co. ronatione, when " they crowned him with thornes, perhaps there might be some Rose trees among them, for (putting him to the most exquisite torments,) it is likely they would use the most accurate and sharpest prickles: Sixthly he shed his blood in clauorum fosione, when his hands and feet were nailed to the Crosse. Foderunt manus o pedes meos, saith the Psalmist, x in his person; they digged my hands and my feet. It is recited and refuted by Sixtus Senens. y as a Heresie of the lewes, that those words are not to be referred to our Saviour Christ, and that hee was not nayled, but tyed to the Croffe: But the print of the nayles was so apparent, that it z was seene and felt by Thomas: and if we may beleeve Socrates, \* the nayles he was nayled with were so bigge, that Constantine made of them a bridle and an Helmet. The feaventh

d

X=

ia

ra

ay

ng

to

w Mat. 27. 29.

x Pfal. 22. 16.

y in Biblioth. Patrum lib. 8 pag. 623.

7 John 20 25,

a lib. 1. cap. 7:

6 lohn 19 34.

leaventh and last effusion of his blood was in lateris apertione, when his side was pierced with a Speare, and forthwith came thereout water, and blood, so that the blood ran downe from his fide which the Speare had pierced, from his hands and feet which the nayles had bored, from his head which the thornes had pricked, from his whole body which his forrow had melted, the fifts buffeted, and the whips scourged. Well therefore might the Spoule say her beloved was white and ruddy, for hee was white with feare, and red with bloud : well might the Christian Poet d say of him,

c Sol. Song 5.

d Hovedenius.

Cum cor fentit amoris gladium, Cruor carnis rubricat pallium.

When loves dart did pierce his side His garments crimson red were dyed

Well might that Evangelicall Praphet ' say: Who is this that commeth up from Edom, with died garments from Bozrah? Wherefore are thoused

gma. eg. 1,2.

in thine apparell, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the Wine-fat? and well may our Princely Poet and Prophet Solomon call him the red Roje of Sharon.

In floribus duplex est gratia, coloris & odoris, faith Isidore: flowers have a double grace in their colour, and in their smell. And the Rose hath the name, in Greeke, quasi bene olens, from the sweet smell it gives, for it is sweet to a Proverbe : and our Saviour Christ may truly be said mes, for he did resemble the Rose, both in colour and smell. As the rednes of the Rose represents his passion, so the sweet smell of the Rose represents his sweet conversation u= pon Earth. Lorinus hath observed a fourefold sweetnesse of this Rose: First: he is duleis in cogitatione ad meditandum, Exect in the thought for meditation : his fruit (faies the spoule h) is sweet unto my tast, and the Prophet David faies, How sweet are thy wordes

f Originum. lib.

g in Epift. ad Pet.cep. 2. v. 3.

hSol.Song 2 3

nts!

ed

ra-

in

& Sol. Song. 2.

l Eccl. 11 27.

m Eccl. 23. 27.

# Mat. 11. 5

O'n Cantic Camiic.

wordes unto my tast, yea sweeter then honey unto my mouth. Secondly, he is dulcis in aure ad audiendum, sweet is the eare to heare him : for k sweet in his voyce, and his countenance comely. Thirdly, he is dulcis in aspectu ad viden= dum, he is sweet in the eye for to be seen, for the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the Sun. Fourthly, he is dulcis in opere ad exequendum, sweet in the worke to obey him. for m there is nothing sweeter then to take heed unto the Commandements of the Lord. But his sweet conversation did chiefly appeare when hee went about doing good both in words and workes: he preached the Gospell to the poore, liberty to the captives, he restored eyes to the blind, eares to the deafe, a tongue to the dumb, limbes to the lame, and life to the dead. In all which respects, wee may say of him with St. Bernard, O bone lefu qui suavi= ter cum Hominibus conversatus es, dulciter

cum

cum illis locutus es. O bleffed Saviour which didst converse with men most lovingly, and talke with them most sweetly, herein shewing himselfe to be the sweet Rose of Sharon.

Thirdly, Floris Viriditas in hyeme absconditur, non amittitur: the greennes of the Rose is hid for a time, but not quite lost; it lies dead in the winter, but at the spring it sprouts up againe; so our Saviour Christ was dead, and hid for a time in the earth, but after three daies, he rose againe, and appeared to his Disciples: he lay dayes; that he might be knowne to be dead; and but three daies, lest he should be thought to have been dead for ever. Christs lying in his grave was like our falling P into a Bed in our Chamber, where though we lie little better then dead (to see too) for the time, Yet in the Morning wee awake and standup: or like the fall into a bed in our Garden; where though the feed putrifie and come to nothing,

111

m

vi=

iter

cum

of the Refurrection Ser. 1.

yet

q Totallian.

r lob. 14 7

yet we looke to see it shoote forth againe in the Spring. Which Spring 9 is the very resurrection of the Yeare, and Christs resurrection falleth out well with that time. There was hopes of this tree, though it were cut downe that it would sprout out againe, for the sappe remained, and he revived. When the women came to seeke for Christ at the Sepulchre, they found the stone's rolled away, and that was the thing that they desired, for they consulted together by the way, who shall roll away the stone for us.

s Luke 24 2.

t Mark 16 3.

But the body they found not,

vier then the stone on the Sepulchre. Though they had so much courage as to be readie to die for Christ, they had not so much faith as to beleeve him, for he had told them before that the third day he would rise againe. If they had

beleeved him, and the stone had beene removed from their hearts, as it was

and that was a stone to their hearts, hea-

v Mat. 17: 23.

from

from the Sepulchre, in stead of saying Sustulerunt Dominum, wThey have taken away the Lord, they would have said, refurrexit, x he is risen: and indeed they contradict themselves in saying so: for if he were their Lord, how could he be taken away? it was enough for Labans Idols to be stollen y: when Iesus appeared unto Mary, she supposing him to be the Gardiner said, Domine si tu, or fir, if thou have borne him from hence tell mee. This Question was well asked, Domine si sustulisti, if you have taken him away? for none could take him away but himselfe. The Rose-tree, though it be troden on and trampled on in the Winter, yet by the heat of the Sunne, by the heavenly influence, without any other helpe it springs againe: so though they fought to lay our Saviours honour in the dust, and (even) trample on him, yet by the power of his Divinity (without other helpe) he did Erigere caput, lift up his head again. Happily

w John 20 13.

x Mat. 28, 6.

y Gen. 31. 30

Z Ichn 20. 15.

4 Mat. 28.1.

b 1Kings 17.22

6 2 Kings 4 34

d 2Kings 13.21

e Pfal. 45.7.

f Virgil.

g de refur.

b lohn 1c. 18.

Happily the Gardiner (if it be a Garden Role) may remove some of the Earth for the Rojes springing, and an Angell descended and rolled away the stone, for our Saviours rifing. Others did rife before Christ, for Elijah b raised the widowes dead sonne of Zarephath, and Elisha being alive raised the Shunamites dead fonne; and being dead his dead bones did raise a a dead man. These were great miracles which these great Prophets did, but he that was anointede with the oyle of gladnes above his fellowes, did lift up his head among the rest, Quantum lenta solent inter viburna cupressi, fas much as the loftiest Cedars overtop the lowest shrubs. What they did it was in nomine & fide ejus, saith S'. Cyprian in his owne name, and by his power; but he, as he layd downe his life of himselfe & so he had power to take it up of himselfe. They rose to die againe, but he rose to live for ever: for herein the resemblance doth not hold

betweene

betweene him and the Rose; the Rose springeth and dyeth againe the next winter, but Christ being raysed i from the dead, dyeth no more, death hath no more dominion over him. They did not conquer death, but death did at last conquer them , but Christ redit victor a mortuis, inferni fecum spolia trabens 4, did rife as a conquerour from the dead, carrying with him Trophyes of his triumph over death and Hell. And it was he onely Qui virtute propria ut victor produit de sepultura, saith S. Bernard , that by his owne power could rife as conquerour out of the Sepulchre. Though they laid him in the earth, they could not keepe him under the earth, though they did Imponere Pelio Offam ", lay a great stone upon the Sepulchre, but at the Spring of the resurrection he rose againe, herein shewing himselfe to be the springing Rose of Sharon; and so I come to the limitation of this attribute. Sharon. I am the Rose of Sharon.

d

ne

i Rom. 6. 9

k Ruffinus in Hym. Apost. inter oper. Cypriani.

1 De Resurree. Christi.

m Virg. Georg. lib.1.v.181.

Sharon

n Ainfrorth in locum.

o 1 Chron.27.

p Ifay 35.2.

Sturen is the name of a place or playne which was very fruitfull, wherein King Davids herds of Cattell' were fed. And the Prophet speaking of the flourishing of Christs Kingdome, saith P that the excellency of Carmel and Sharon shall be given unto it. And in this sense it shewes that Christ takes no delight in them that are barren, but in them that are fruitfull in good workes: and also it shewes the fruitfull estate of the Church under Christ, that it is no barren Doe, but a fruitfull Hind: and although before his coming shee was a barren Wildernesse, yet by him she was as fruitfull as Sharon. But the word שרוז Sharon in the originall signifies 9 a q Pagnin Lexic. Field in generall, as well as the Field Sharon in particular; and therefore give me leave to follow the old Translation of this word, which renders it, I am the Rose of the Field; for therein lyes hid three mysteries

First, he is the Rose of the Field, not

of the Garden: Campus enim fine omni humano floret adminiculo, non seminatus ab alique, non defossus sarculo, non impinguatus fine : Sec. omorino , fic virginis alpus floruit, fic inviolata, integra, & casta Mariæ vifcera, tanquam pafcua æterni viroris, storem protulere, cujus pulchritudo non viderit corruptionem, cujus gloria in perpetuum non marcescat, saith S. Bernard The Field flourisheth without mans industry, it is neither sowed nor digged nor dunged by man, but the Flowers grow in it by the providence of God: To Christ was conceived by the holy Ghost without the help of man, the virgins Wombe did flourish, and her chaste bowels (like a Field of eternall greennesse) brought forth a Flower whose beauty never saw corruption, and whose glory shal never wither. The flowers of the Feild have onely a father in Heaven, that is, the Sunne by whose heat and vertue they grow, and a mother in earth, that is, the ground from

n

be

ee

ot

of

r De Adventu. Ser.2.

f Dostor Guilliam: 7 Gold Candlest tract of the Incaru. from whence they spring: so this Hower of the root of Iesse had onely a father in Heaven, God: and a mother

t De Tempore Ser 23.

· Lib 2. cap. 8.

in earth, the virgin. He was Deus de patre, homo de matre, de patris immortalitate, de matris virginitate, de patre sine matre, de matre sine patre, de patre sine tempore, de matre sine semine, saith Saint Augustine', he was God of his father, man of his mother, of the immortali. ty of his father, of the virginity of his mother, of his father without a mother, of his mother without a father, of his father without time, of his mother without seed. Anselmus hath obferved " foure waies by which man may come into the world. First, by the help of man and woman, the common way. Secondly, without the help both of man and woman, as Adam. Thirdly, of a man without a woman, as Eve. Fourthly, of a woman without a man, as Christ. God made the first Adam without the help of man, for God " formed .

W Gen. 2.7.

formed him of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrills the breath of life; so God made the second Adam without the help of man, but the holy Ghost overshadowed the virgin, and the conceived. Ergo fi tunc licuit hominem fine homine nasci, cur non licuit hominem sine homine de Maria virgine procreari, saith S. Austinx, If man might then bee made without mans helpe, why should not the man Christ Ielus be borne of a virgin without the help of man? Divers have rendred divers reasons why it should be so, first, because as that woman was a virgin by whom sinne was spread among men, ( as Ireneus thinketh, that Eve was a virgin when shee gave her husband of the forbidden fruit) To was it fit that the should be a virgin, by whom a Saviour should be produced for man: for it pleased God that the fall and rifing from finne, the falve and the fore should be brought unto us the same " way, though not by the Same!

x D: Tempore

y Lib.3 cap. 33.

z Luda'ph a: vita (bri pe.

a Bila apul Ludolph. same meanes : Ceciderat autem homo diabolo destinante, serpente exequente, dialogo interveniente, o muliere consentiente? When man, fell the divell appoynted, the Serpent obeyed, the speech passed betweene the woman and the Serpent, and shee consented. Contrarily when man was restored; Deo destinante, Ange= lo exequente, dialogo interveniente, & vir= gine consentiente, God appoynted, the Angell obeyed, the speech concurred, and the virgin consented. Secondly, Christs generation was a figure of our Regeneration, and it was fit, aith Saint August. b that Christ the head should be borne of a virgin, to signify that his members (the children of God) must be borne of a virgin the Church : so the Apostle tells the Corinthians , I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin unto Christ: for Christs Church ( like his mother ) is both a mother and a mayd, a mother (being betrothed to him)

b D: Sanctis Sec. 17.

c 2 Cor. 11. 2.

as she brings forth, and brings up many children for him, and a virgin as she remaynes spotles before him. Thirdly, being Godd, it was fit that he should be borne of none else but a virgin : and it was fit that a virgin should bring forth none but God. Fourthly, Christ had a father in Heaven before, God was his Father by an ineffable generation, and therefore he was not to have a father on earth, lest he should have had two fathers. Fifthly, the truth was to answer to the tipe; Melchisedeck was a type of Christ, and it is said of him, that hee was without father, without mother; fo Christ was God without mother, and man without father. Lastly, Christ was to take away sinne, which he could not have done if hee himselse had been borne in sinne; and he could not have been free from finne, had he not been borne of a virgin: our Saviour himselfe tells us 8, that which is borne of the flesh is flesh. All men that

0

is

d,

asi

d Barrad To. 1. lib. 7 c.19 10.

e Heb.7.3.

f Stap. Promp. Mor. In fift. Annunc.

g John 3. 6.

h Pful. 51.5.

k 1.King 6.7

i Ezck, 44.

1 Dan. 2 45.

m Numb. 17.7.

that are begotten of men may fay with the Prophet David h, Behold I was shapen in iniquity, and in sinne did my mother conceive me. Hee onely was free from originall corruption, that came not into the World by an ordinary conception. This was figured by many things in the old Testament, by the gate of the Sanctuary which was shut, and the Lord said it shall be shut, it shall not bee opened, and no man shall enter in by it, because the Lord the God of Ifrael hath entred in by it: by Solomons Temple that was built k without an iron instrument: by the stone 1 cut out of the Mountaine without hands, and Aarons Rod that " bloffomed and brought forth ripe Almonds without feed, fignifyed that CHRIST should bee brought forth of a virgin without mans seed, or hands, or helpe. Sicut non poterat caro nisi de carne nasci, ita non poterat Dei caro de fæmineo utero nisi sine generante pro dire, laith S. Aug." As As flesh could not bee borne without flesh, so the sonne of God could not be borne but without carnall generatio. He came not into the world by the helpe of man, but by, the providence, of God here in resembling the rose of the comon field.

Secondly, the Rose of the Field o is not inclosed, and made private to a few, as the garden Rose is, but is common to all that will gather it : So Christ is not inclosed to a few but is common to all that will lay hold upon him. Once (indeed) before Christs comming, Christ might properly have been said to bee the Rose of Sharon, when the Iewes were Gods peculiar people. Then in Inda P was God knowne, and his name was great in Ifrael. God did then choose for himselfe one Vine of all the Trees of the Forrest, one Rose of all the Flowers of the Field, one Dove of all the Birds of the ayre, and one Nation of all the Kingdomes of the World : but fince his manifestation in the flesh, the vayle

1.0

15

o Doctor Date

Pfal. 76.1.

9 Luke 23 45.

r Ech. 2. 14.

Mat. 10. 5

t Mark. 16.15.

v Doftor Days on the Epift.2. Sunday after Faile ..

10 Exo 1.30 34.

x Ephel 5. 3.

of the Temple was rent 9, and the middle wall of partition was broken downe and he became the Role of the Field. And although the Apostles at the first were commanded not to goe into the way of the Gentiles, nor to enter into any City of the Samaritanes, yet afterwards their commission was renewed, and they were commanded 'to preach the Gospell through the World. It is well observed v that G o p commanded Moses to put in his perfume was much Galbanum as Frankincense, and as much Frankincense as Galbanum, to fignify that Christ in his oblation on the crosse, a sacrifice \* of a sweet smelling savour unto God, shed as much bloud for the labouring man that followeth the Plow, as for the Prince that fitteth on the Throne : and that his precious bloud hath, greater force in some then in other, is not the fault of him that did fo well impart it, but of them which do so ill imploy it. Christ was

was borne in a common Inne, diverso= rium dicitur, quia ibi diversi conveniunt, faith Isidore , he receives (like that) all y Apad Gornon. comers. In medio Templi misericordia est, non in angulo aut diversorio: In communi posita est, offertur omnibus, & nemo illius expers nisi qui renuit, saith S. Bernard. <sup>2</sup> The mercy of God was placed in the midst of the Temple, not in some nooke or corner, it is proffered to all, and none goes without it, but he that refuseth it: for though the Rose of the Field lyeth common to all, yet are not all partakers of the benefit of it, but onely these that use it for smell or for medicine: so although Christs merits are common to all, hee keepes open house for all commers, yet those onely have full benefit by them that lay hold upon them. God loved the World (indeed) when he gave his onely begotten Sonne (not onely to it, but for it) but those onely that believe on him shall not perish, but have life everlast-

n

of

of

ift

as

Z In Purifi. pag ter.

a John 3.16

ing.

b Bullinger in Tit-2 11.

c 2 Cor. 5 15.

d 1 Tim 2.4.

e Hom 9 in Gen & recensitur inter e rores ejus ab Abra, Scul. teto in medull. Patr To 1 lib. 6.cap. 6.

f Part. 1. Quaft 19. Art. 6.

g Doctor Prideaux Lect. Oxon. Lec. 3.

h voi prius.

ing. Pradicatio Christi neminem excludit nisi qui sese suapte excluserit perfidia , Christ excludes none but those that exclude themselves by unbeliefe. The Apostle tells us that Christ dyed for all : And God will have all men to bee faved, not all of the World, as Origen. Would have it ', that all men and divells also shall be saved at the last day. But some say, God will have all men to be saved which are faved, not that there is none that shall not be saved, but that all those that are faved, are faved by the good will and pleasure of God, so Aquinas s: or as others, God will voluntate qua invitat, Because he puts no blocke in the way, non voluntate qua efficit, for he doth not remove the impediment: soalearned professor of Theology or: else God will voluntate antecedente, non consequente, with his antecedent, not consequent will; so Aquinas h from Damascen : as the ludge in his antecedent will would have all men to live, but in his consequent will

he would have the malefactors to be put to death; so God (antecedenter) will have all men to be faved, but (consequenter ) hee will have the wicked damned. Or else Christ dyed for all secundum sufficientiam, in respect of the sufficiency thereof, but not secundum efficientiam, in regard of the efficiency thereof, as being effectuall onely to the faithfull or elect of God, so the Master of the Sentences is though that distinction be exploded by many as well of the Church of Rome, as of the Church of England, which hold that onely to bee sufficient which is effectuall. Il= liricus & saies , Christus actu passus est pro omnibus sed non actu salvantur, aut omnibus actuejus passio prodest, Christ fuffered effectually for all, but his sufferings are not effectuall unto all: others would have the word (all) to bee understood, non de singulis generum, sed de generibus singulorum, and then it is taken distributive,

ne

i Lib. 3 distin. 19.& Nich. de Orbell. com. in Sent.

k De Trop. & Schem. Sacr. Litt. Trac. 4.

not

1 .1/1. 2. Pel. C.17 2.

De Corred. & Gia. & Cofma. in I. Tim. n Arctius in I ad Tim cap. 2:

o John 5.4.

p Clem- q. apud Barradians.

not Collective, as Logicians speake, distributively for all forts and conditions of men, high and low, rich and poore, Iew and Gentile, not universally for every particular person, so S. Augustine, " Lastly, suppose it bee understood de individu is omnibus ( as some ) a of all particular persons, God will have all to be faved (conditionaliter) if they will use and apply the meanes. Christs bloud is like the poole of Bethesda , which was able to cure all manner of diseases, but it cured none but those that did enter into it. So though it be true which some P affirme, unam guttam sanguinis Christi pro redemptione totius humani ge= neris suffecisse, That one drop of Christs bloud was of Sufficient vertue for the redemption of all mankind, yet (though it were all shed) it is of no more vertue to him that will not lay hold upon it, then a pardon would bee beneficiall to him that should either refuse or rend it. The least drop of Christs bloud'

Ser.i.

(as hath been said) in respect of the excellency of the person, the innecency of the nature, and the efficacy of the Crosse, was sufficient to redeeme the World , yet this excellent salve so soversigne, for all fores, doth no more good to many, then the most soveraigne Rose or Hearb of the Field can worke them health that will not apply it to their severall diseases. Si quis non credit in Christum, generali beneficio ipse se fraudat, ut si quis clausis fenestris radios so= lis excludat laich S. Ambrofe & If any believe not in Christ hee deprives himselfe of the benefit of his passion, as if one by shutting the windowes should shut out the light of the Sun : and therefore he that will not gather this Rose, let, him blame himselfe, seeing hee is not inclosed in the garden, but the Rose of the open Field.

Thirdly, the Rose of the Field is for profit as well as pleasure, it being healthfull for many Medicines, as the Herba-

IS

q Ser. 8. in .Pf.

lists

r Dodaneus Lantgrave.

[ Exod 3.14.

t Job.2.7.

w Lu. 8 43.

lists " have observed : so (brist was profitable for us, and healthfull unto us. He was knowne in the old Testament by this name, I am fleaving a blanke for us to write what we will, and he will supply the rest. I am your Saviour, your Physician, your guide, your gayne, your all in all, for so he is to them that love him. Before Christs coming the whole World was weake and wicked, fickly and finfull. The generall confumption of goodnes, the Dropsie of covetousnes, the Tympany of pride, the Gout of idlenes, the tertian of incontinency, and the quotidian of Gluttony did shew that Adam was turned Enosh, full of infirmity. Neither had this infirmity seised partially on it, but with lob t from the sole of the foot to the crowne of the head, they are all " corrupt. Nulla sanctitas, nulla sanitas. Nor was this malady but newly entred, or continued onely twelve yeares, as the wissue of bloud had with the woman,

or thirty and eight yeeres, as the mans infirmity x at the poole of Bethesdah, but the World had lyen bedrid almost foure thousand yeeres, given quite over by the Law unto death; in this forlorne hope came the y refurrection & the life, the fole Saviour and great physitian of the world, crying out for our comfort, the world is not dead, but sleepeth; restoring health two wayes, mediate, and immediate. First, mediate, by meanes: not as once, by clay and spittle. Secondly, 2 as he restored fight to the blind: or as Isaiah to Hezekiah a, by alump of dry Figgs, nor as Elishab to Naaman, by the waters of Iordan : but a Samaritanes cure ', Wine to search, and Oyleto supple, the Law being a corrofive to kill the dead flesh, and the Gospella Cordiall to comfort the heart. And this physick doth hee still administer by his instruments, his Embassadors : by them that plant in the Pulpit, and water in the presse, that plant in their Doctrine, and water in their

r

r

or

x John 5 5.

y John 11. 25.

3 John 9. 6.

a 2 Kings 20.7. b 2 Kings 5.10. c Luke 10. 34.

con=

mine

conversation: by them that adminifter such physick as he doth direct, and apply fuch salves as the word doth prescribe for the healing of fick soules. Secondly, Christ heals immediately by himselfe; pride was Adams bane, Chrift cured it by humility; man (furfeting) fell by the forbidden Tree, Christ (fasting) cured it by the cursed Tree. Other Phyfitians a restore health by opening of veynes, by letting of bloud, by giving of Potions, and by prescribing of dyet, but Christ (this heavenly Physitian) made himselfethe Physick to heale us, he tooke the bitter Potion of vineger, the deit of fasting s, the bloud-letting in his Hands, his Feete, his Side, his Head his Body. Mirabile plane & incomparabile genus medicinæ, propter quam medicus voluit ægrota= re, & ægrotos ipsos, quibus salutis remedium procuravit, sua decrevit infirmitate curare, faith S. Aust. h It was a wonderfull and incomparable kind of phylick for which

the Physitian would bee sick, and deter-

d Stella in Luc.

e Staplet. Prom. mr. Dom. inf. oft. nat. Dom

f John 19. 29.

g Mat. 4 2.

h De Sanctis Ser .19. mine to cure those fick persons (to who he procures health) by his owne infirmity. Effe hominis filius voluit ut nos Dei filios faceret, humilia vit se ut populum qui prius jacebat erigeret, vnlneratus est,ut vulne= ra nostra sanaret, servivit ut ad libertatem servientes extraheret, mori sustinuit ut im= mortalitatem mortalibus exhiberet faith S. Cyprian i. He would be made the son of man to make us the Sonnes of God, he humbled himselfe that hee might exalt the humble, he was wounded that hee might heale our wounds, he became a servant that he might set us at liberty that were servants, he dyed to restore immortality to mortall men. And indeed Christs whole life, whether you confider his Doctrine or his doings, was healthfull and medicinable to us, if we obey his precepts, or imitate his patterne.

This Text hath been hitherto as a fruitfull Field wherein I have gathered some corne, I shall now bind some profit of it up in sheaves that you may the

m

8,

d

ch

r-

ne

G 2 better

i De opere & Elemos pag. 3 4 4 John. 11. 36.

1 Div. Bein.

m Comp.r. on Rom. 8 n Gen. 14. 14 better carry it away with you. First, therefore, here we may see Christs love to us with aftonishment and admiration. What the Iewes said concerning La= zarus k ( when Christ raysed him from dead) behold how he loved him, so may we say, behold how he loved us, how deare and pretious our life hath been in his eyes may appeare by the greatnes of the price which hee payd for it, even his owne life. Quam indebita miseratio, quam grata dilectio &c. regem gloria cruci= figi pro despicatissimo vermiculo 1! O how undeferved is that mercy, how free is that love, that the King of glory should be crucifyed for despicable Wormes! It was a great love that Abraham shewed to Lot, in hazarding his owne life ", and the lives of his family to rescue him out of the hands of Chedorlaomer; but not comparable that love which our kinfman, the Lord Iesus, hath shewed unto us, who hath given his life to deliver us out of the hand of our enemyes. It was a wonderfull great love that God would would make man like himselfe, and allthings for man, greater love; that he himselfe would be made man; but greatest of all that he would dy for his falvation. Secondly, let us consider the odioulnes of finne with harred and detestation. Thousands of Rams, norten thousands of Rivers of Oyle, could not make satisfaction for sinne, neither could the fruit of our body make satisfaction for the sinne of our soule ; but the Son of God must needs dy for the fins of man. If finne cost Christ so deare, doubtles it will cost us dearer, except we repent. Memoria ergo crucifixi in no= bis crucifigat omne peccatum P, is an excellent counsaile, and worthy our practice : therefore let the remembrance of Christ crucified cause us to crucify all fin in ms, he stretched out his hands on the Crosse to embrace us, and let not us stretch out our hands to wick. ednes to difgrace him, he was crucifyed for us, let not us crucify him againe by

o Micah . 67.

p Div. Born.

our

er It od ld

ıt

ot

ſ-

to

our fins, but crucify our fins that caused him to be crucified. Thirdly, Christ is a patterne for our imitation, and that in three things. First, we must imitate him in the sweetnes of our action, especially in dong good. Secondly, in our refurrection, which is twofold, the first animon To mapor, the other is distance in the mapor. The one is a refurrection of the dead, the other is a refurrection from the dead: We must rise from the death of sinne to the life of grace, if wee meane to rife from the death of the grave unto the life of glory. But we must not rise as the Rosetree doth at the spring to dy againe the next winter, but with Christ, he being rayled from the dead q dyeth no more, death hath no more dominion over him, and we must so rise from the death of fin, that we never commit the fame fins againe. Thirdly, as Christ was conceived and borne for us, so must we conceive and beare him in our hearts. There is a threefold nativity of Christ, Divine from

q Rom. 6.9.

from his Father, fleshly from his Mother, and spirituall in the mind. Ex patre nascitur semper, de matre natus est semel, in mente nascitur sape, saith Innocentius 1; He is borne of his father alwayes, he was borne of his Mother once, and is borne in the mind often, and we must endevour to keepe him there alwayes. Forthly, here is also matter of consolation, and that in a double respect, first as Christ is the Rose of the common Field, and lyes open to all, he refuseth none but those that refuse him. Secondly, because he is the Physitian of our Soules, that is able to cure them, hiding allour fins, and healing all our Sores, giving us spirituall health here, and eternall health and happines hereafter. Lastly, as Elisha said to his servant concerning the good Shunamite: She hath been carefull for us with all this care, what is to be done for her? fo may I say to you concerning our Saviour, he hath been thus carefull for us, what shall we doe againe for him? As

1-

re

ne

m

r Ser.3. apud Barrad,

12 Kings. 4.

hel

he dranke to us in the cup of falvation, so let us pledge him in the cup of thankf-giving: as he gave himselfe a propitiatory sacrifice for us, so let us give up our selves a gratulatory sacrifice of prayse and thankes giving to him. And let us fall downe with the t foure and twenty elders, and the fowre beasts, praysing God with our Church, and saying.

t Revel. 19 4.

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will toward men. We prayse thee, wee blesse thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thankes unto theeO, LordGod, heavenly King, for all thy blessings bestowed upon us, for that thou hast sent thy Sonne Iesus Christ not only to live among men, but to dy for men: Grant(O Lord) that we may all be partakers of all the benefits of his passion. And that for the same Iesus Christ his sake, who as he died for sin, so he ever lives to make intercession from sinnes. To whom with thee, and the Holy Spirit, be all honour, and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

## THE

## ROSE AND

## DELIVERED AT THE

LECTVRE,

In A s H B Y de-la-zouch in the County of Leicester.

 $\mathcal{B}_{y}$ 

WILLIAM PARKS,

Master of Arts, and curat of Chelaston in the County of Derey.

ללמר ללמד

Discendum propter docendum.

LONDON,

Printed by John Norron, 1638.



To the Right Honorable, FERDINAND O, Lord HASTINGS, my very good Lord,

firmes, experience proves true, in instantion of the same involves, that hearing is not lyable to any account, but musing impossion, what soever a man speakes (but especially writes) it layes him open to others censure, unto which fhave now exposed my selfe, and crave your Lordships protection. Your Honour must not expect any high straynes in this Sermon.

A 2

Haud

Haud facile emergunt quorum virtutibus obstat

Res angusta domi.

As it is f desire your Lordships acceptance of it, as an expression of some part of that duty
and service f owe your Honor.
The God of mercie poure downe
his mercies on your Lordship,
your Honourable Lady, and
hopefull children. Which shall
alwaies be the praier of

Your Lordships in all duty, and service.

WILLIAM PARKS.



## ROSE AND

SOLOMONS SONG.2.1.

f am the Rose of Sharon, and the Lily of the vallyes.



Hat the Queene of Shebah told Solomon, that though it were a true report which shee had heard of him, yet the one halfe was

not told her: so may I say unto you concerning this Text, though it bee a true report you have heard of him that

a 1 Kings 10.

A 3

. . . . .

is greater then Solomon b, yet the one halfe is not told you. For this Text is a most fertile and fruitfull Field, conteyning variety of no lesse profitable then pleasant Flowers, from whence I have already brought you a Posy made of Roses, and now give me leave from the same Garden to present unto you a Posy composed of Liles. The Lily is next in nobility to the Rose, saith Pliny, and therefore as I have shewed you wherein Christ resembles the Rose, so must I now shew you how hee is the Lily of the roallyes.

c Lib. 2 cap. 5.

d' Acift. Pliny

The written and in the commendadation of the Lily, affirming it to bee a most fine Flower, both for fragrant smell and curious colours. And many Princes did beare it in their crests and Escutchions, but I leave this for Heralds to discourse of, and for Herbalists to discusse, and shall onely shew you that Christ resembles the Lily in these fowre respects. First, the Flower of the Lily is lifted upward, and open toward Heaven, but toward the earth it is close and shut; so Christ had his mind open toward Heaven, set on heavenly things, but he alwayes neglected and contemned earthly things. Secondly, the leaves of the Lily spread outward, and bend downward; fo Christ extended his benefits downward, even to his enemies. Thirdly, the whitenesse of the Lily may fignify Christs eternity, or his innocency. Fourthly, the Lily growes among thornes, and Christ ( when hee was upon the Earth ) was conversant among finners: in these respects hee shewed himselfe to bee the Lily of the vallyes. And first of the first, the Flower of the Lily is open toward Heaven, but close toward the earth, so Christ had his affections open toward heavenly things, but he neglected earthly.

As Christ was sometime 'subject to e Luke 2.51. his Mother, so was he alwayes obedi-

ent

1 John 3-31.

3 Coloi.3,2.

h Luke 2. 49.

i Ludo ph de vita Chesfti-part 1.019.67. ent to his father. He that f came from above, did set his affections on things 8 above. This Lily had alwayes the eyes of his affections open toward heaven (it being his chiefest care to doe his heavenly fathers busines) but close shut toward earth and earthly things. There are three ' things that hinder us from having the eyes of our foules open toward Heaven, but Christ was free from them all. First, quando oculus nimis oc= cupatur circa sensibilia, when the eye is too much imployed about sensible objects, namely when the affection is let on earthly things, for then is the eye of the foule dazled with the dust of covetousnes, but Christ had no mind of earthly riches, but as hee had none, fo he did desire none. Secondly, quando ni= mis occupatur circa delectabilia, when it is too much taken up with delightfull things, the carnall defires of the flesh, for then the eye is blinded with the fire of concupiscence : but Christ was

free

free from that, and it is such a sinne that the divell himselfe would not tempt Christ by that, though hee tempted him by riches and the glory of the World k. Thirdly, quando nimis occupatur circa sublimia, when it is intent on lofty things, namely ambitiously taken up with the pompe and glory of the World, for then the eye is darkned with the smoake of pride, but Christ was free from that, for he' fled from those that would have made him King. So that he had no worldly riches to clog him, no carnall pleasures to allure him, no ambitious thoughts to stop him, nor any of those to hinder him for having his eyes and thoughts settled on heavenly things. Hee was not like the Bafiliskes which Pliny " calls xatachites, because they looke downward, and cannot turne their countenance upward roward the Firmament: but rather he was like the fish which Albertus ( as I remember) makes mention of, that

k Mat. 4

1 Join. 6. 16.

m Lib. 8.

had

had but one eye, placed in his pole, so

that he alwayes looked upward, minding things above, but hee did altogether neglect (if not contemne) all earthly things. Which will the better appeare if we consider his poverty in his birth, in his life, and in his death. First, in his birth : Exigua magni pompa puerperii, saith S. Cyprian ", There was but small pomp at this great birth; he was borne in so meane a manner; that the cratch was his cradle, the manger his chamber, and the stable his Inne. If the Sun of God will needs come and dwell among the sons of men, Kings palaces (me thinks) were bad enough to receive so worthy a person, and yet (behold) the stateliest place for his entertainment is a stable. If the King of Heaven will needs come into the earth, the most princely chamber were fittest for him to be lodged in, and yet (behold) he lies in a manger. If King

Solomon was fo ravished with admira-

tion,

n Som. dens.

o Lule 2. 7.

tion, when hee confidered that GoD would reside at the Temple in Hierusalem ( which was so glorious that it was Pseaven yeares in building ) that hee cries out 9, But will Go D indeed dwell on the earth? behold the Heaven, and the Heaven of heavens cannot contayne thee, how much lesse the house that I have made? how much more would he have admired, had he come into this stable, and found Christ (this Lord of life) lying in a manger ? Secondly, in his life-time he was poorer then the beafts of the Field, and the Birds of the Ayre, for they have dens and nests to rooft and to rest in, but hee had not a place where to lay his head, as himselfe testifies r. And as for his outward estate he was so poore, that when tribute was demanded of him, he had nothing to pay it, but he fends Peter with an angle to catch a fish to bring him money to pay it : therein shewing great t Majesty as well as poverty,

PI Kings 638.

9 1 Kings 8.37

r Mat. 8. 20.

( Mat. 17. 27

t lanfn. conc.

# 2 Cor.6.10.

w Cicero Para

poverty, his poverty in that he had nothing wherewith to pay it, and his Majesty in that being Lord of Sea as well as Land, he commands a Fish to do it for him. So that as the Apostle S. Paul sayes of himselfe, " he was as having nothing, and yet possessing all things; so may I say of Christ, he possesfed nothing, and yet he was Lord of all. When Priene. w the City where Byas dwelt was taken by the enemies, and the Citizens fled, carying as much of their substance with them as they could, when he was admonished by some to doe the like, Ego quidem (inquit) facio, nam omnia mea mecum porto; I doe it (saidhe) already, for I alwayes carry all my goods about me : so lightly did he esteeme of those ludibria fortuna, (riches) that hethought them not worth a carrying : so Christ carryed all his goods about him, so that when he died, he needed no executors to prove his will, for \* the Souldiers parted his

# Jehn 19 23.

goods

goods among them, and hee had nothing for them to part, but onely his garments. I have heard a story of Richard Nevile, sometime Earle of War= wick (how true it is, I know not) that when the people would have made him King, hee refused that dignity, faying, that he had rather make Kings then be one: but this I know, he that putteth downe one, and fetteth up another, when the people would have made him King, refused it. Erat Rex qui timebat fieri Rex : nec talis Rex qui ab hominibus fieret, sed talis qui hominibus regnum daret, saith Saint Augustine2 He was a King that feared to bee made a King, not fuch a King that should be made by men, but such a King as should give a Kingdome to men. A King hee was indeed, and acknowledged to bee so a by the wise men at his birth. Nathanel b, and the whole multitude acknowledged him " to bee King in his Life: at his death

is

is

ds

Mat-27.35.

y Pfal.85.7

₹In John Tract. 23

a Mat. 2. 2.

b John 1. 44. c Luke 19.38. d John 19, 19

e Calvin in Iohn

f John 19. 38.

g Ad frair. in Eremo Ser. 48

death Pilate wrote him King of the Iewes and would not alter that title, and yet hee would not be made a King by the people, left ' his spirituall Kingdome should have been at an end; he refused to be made a King on earth, for hee was already King of Heaven and earth. Thirdly at his death he was To poore, that he had neither Sepulchre nor winding sheet of h's owne, but Ioseph and Nicodemus were faine to fupply them. Even the richest men and most puissant Monarch's have nothing at their deathes, that they may properly call their owne, but onely their Sepulchres. We may fay of them all as S. Austin & speakes of Casars Tombe; Though hee were the feare of men, and terror of Princes, yet all his great riches, his titles of Honour and Dignity, his Crowne and Scepter, Speare and Sword, Omnia sibi pariter defecerunt, quan= do defecit spiritus ejus : & reliquerunt cum captivatum in sepulchro trium brachi-

orun

orum plenum fatore & putredine. All those things left him ( as they doe all men else) when he was bereft of his foule, and left him nothing but a Sepulchre of fix cubits to conteyne him: but Christ, as he was without all earthly pompe in his life, so at his death he had not so much as a Sepulchre or winding sheet of his owne, untill they were given him. In all which respects we may say of him with S. Augustine h, Omnia bona terrena contempsit homo Christus, ut nobis ea contemnenda monstraret. The man Christ Jesus did contemne all earthly things, to teach us also to doe the like. It was a curse layd upon the Serpent in Paradise upon thy belly shalt thou goe, and dust shalt thou eat all the dayes of thy life, and therefore the feed of the woman k being to break the head of the Serpent, went not on his belly, nor had his affections placed on the earth, but was lifted furfum versus calum, upward toward Heaven, therein

h De Catechia.

i Gen.3.14

4 Var. 15.

therein resembling the Flower of the

Lily of the Valleys. Secondly, folia liliorum non solum di= latantur ad latera, sed etiam inferius de= clinant ad ima, the Leaves of the Lily do not onely extend outward, but bend downward, so Christ extended his benefits farr off, and even to his enemies. The Apostle S. Paul tells the Gentiles 1, that now in Christ lesus yee who somtimes were farr off, are made nigh by the bloud of Christ. Christs benefits to us, are like the oyntment m on Aarons head, that ran downe on his beard, and descended to the skirts of his garments; they went downe to the lowest members of the Church. When he was upon the earth hee shewed his love

unto the poore, in doing good to the Halt, the Lame, the Blind, as it were so many cripples from severall Hospitalls. Now love a is more shewed

in deeds then in words: but more in fuffering, then it is in doing, so that

the

1 Eph. 2. 13.

m Pfal. 133.2.

expe. of the

the love of Christ was especially shewed unto us in dying for us. As the Father shewed great love in giving his Sonne unto us; so the son shewed like equal love in being so ready to fuffer for us. Greater olove hath no man then this, that a man lay downe his life for his friends; but Christ suffered forus dum inimici essemus P, while wee were finners, and enemies, and gave himselfe to death for us, while wee were dead in trespasses and sins. Wee read of some indeed that have been ready to dy for their friends, as ' Damon for his Pithyas; Pylades for his Orestes, of whom the Poet, t.

0 john 15 13.

P Rom.s.8, re.

1 Eph 2. 1.

r Cicer. Offic.

f Idem de Amici

Extitit hoc unum quod non convenerat illis, Hic negat, inq; vicem pugnat uterq; mori.

They never fell out about any thing but this, which of them should first lay downe his life for the other. And wee read of some that have dyed for others, as S. Austine reports v of Castor and C Pollux

d

n

at

C

v De Civitate Dei li.8.cap. 5

Aretched

w leftin.

Pollux the sons of Tyndarus, that Pollux intreated to impart halfe his life on his brother. And we read that Codrus did willingly w dy for his countrey. And also it is reported x Subeuntem fata mariti Alcesten: that Alcestes did undergo the destinies of her husband, and by her death redeemed his life. These shewed great loves in laying downe their lives, but it was for them that loved them as much, or had deferved fo much at their hands : But Christlayd downe his life for us, not onely Sine. nostris meritis, sed cum nostris demeritis faith S. Bornard, when we deferved no love, but when we deserved as much hatred from him as was due unto his enemies; and extended the fruits of that love, and the benefits of that pasfion to all that will lay hold upon them. It is written of the Cherubins 2 that they stretched out their wings, ad parietes usq;, to the wall on each side, full ten cubits so Christ being

y In Cant. Ser.

37 Lings 6.27.

Atretched forth upon the Crosse, extended his benefits to the ends of the World: hee stood open to receive all commers, and spread forth the branches of his love unto all, therein resembling the leaves of the Lilies of the Valleyes.

Thirdly, the Lily, Lactei floris herba, unde & nuncupata, quafi lidia, (aith Isidore, a cujus cum candor sit in foliis, auri tamen species intus effulget. The Lily is a milke white Flower; from whence it takes its denomination from the whitenes of it, and the whitenes of the Lily may fignify Christs eternity. And therefore S. Iohn the divine describing the parts of Christs Body, sayes his Head, and his Haires were white like Wooll, as white as Snow; for though , as hee is man he had a beginning, yet in regard of his God-head he is eternall, and is therefore called the ancient of dayes; there is nothing more ancient then he: for he had a being when all other crea-

a O ig. lib. 17

b Rev. 1. 14

c Prhias on the Rev.

d Dan 7.22

C 2

ture

e Sidenham Ser on John 8. 50. tures were not, being begotten of his Father before all time. And therefore the Arrian out of his envious pride is at once bountifull and injurious, willing to invest Christ with the title survives, but distrobes him of that glorious title, and his owne, suodotor, granting him a like essence with the Father, not the same, equall to him in power, not eternity : for it he bee a sonne ( saith he ) he must be borne, and if borne, there was a time when there was on fonne.

f Ef 53 8.

g De Trin. li.

Indeed it is true according to the course of nature, but this is so farre above it, that f who can declare it? Cum natum confitemur, non tamen non na= tum prædicamus, saith S. Hilary 5. When we confesse that he was borne, we do not say that he was not borne. For ubi author eternus est, ibionativitatis eternitas eft, Where the author of the birth is eternall, there is also an eternity of the nativity, and from an eternall begetter

pro-

proceeds an eternall begetting. Indeed the Word was made flesh, but non amiserat quod erat, sed caperat esse quod non erat, saith the same Father hee ceafed not to be what he was before, but he began to be in a new manner that he was not before. The name יהו ה Iehovah, derived from nin Havab fuit, he was, (in which name all time past, present, and to come is comprehended, as the Rabbins k have observed ) is given unto Christ, who is called Ier. 23.6. יהוה צדקנו Iebovah tsidkenu) the Lord our righteousnes: intimating that hee is the same Go p that is that was, ab aterno, from all eternity, and will be in aternum to all eternity. Hee being the same yesterday " before his com= ming, to day, at his comming, and for ever, even at his comming againe. Heare Christ testifying of himselfe;" as the Father hath life in himselfe, so hath he given to the Son to have life in himselfe. Apertissime docet ( saith Saint Cwill

r

)-

h John 1. 14

i De Trin li.s

k Beery on Ex.

1R: v.1.8-

m Heb. 13 8.

1 John 5. 26.

o Th faw. lib.

p Athanif.

Cyrill o) quod sicut pater in seipso aternaliter vitam habet, sic & silius aternaliter vitam in seipso habet. As the Father
hath life eternally in himselfe, so hath
the Son life eternally in himselfe. As
he was man P of the substance of his
Mother, borne in the World, so was
he God of the substance of his Father,
begotten before the Worlds, for hee is
eternall; being the white Lily of the
Valleys.

But whitenes more properly signifies innocency, and therefore the Latines call innocency candor, which signifies whitenes, and innocent men, candidi, white men: and the holy Ghost seemes to allow it; for the Church is said to be arrayed in fine linnen, cleane and white, which is the righteousnes (or innocency) of the Saints. Seeing then that folia liliorum sunt purissima, the Lily is most pure and white both within and without, it sitly resembles the in-

9 Rev. 19.8.

innocency both of Christs nature and action. Nigra funt vitia, virtus candida est, saith S. Bern. vices are blacke, but vertue is white. So that Cicero might well affirme, that Color albus pracipue decorus Deo est: the whitest colour is most agreeable to the highest Son of GOD. Absq: liliis nunquam est, qui abs= que vitiis semper est. He is never without the whitenes of the Lily, that is ever without the blacknes of finne. Hee is fayrer then "the children of men: And it may more truely be sayd of him then it was of Absolom w: But in all Israel there was none to be prayfed so much for his beauty: from the sole of his foot, even to the crowne of the Head there was no blemish in him. Christ was a Lambe " : a uque of donn or, without blemish and without spot: without y blemish of originall sin, and without the spot of actuall. There could bee no spot found in his action, nor blemish in his conversation. But some may object

r In Cant. Ser.

f De legibus li.

t Div. Bern.

u Pfal. 45. 2.

10 2 Sam.14.

x 1 Pet. 1.19.

y Lorin.in Pet

z P 17.3. 74.

object and say, Christ tooke upon him the defects and infirmities of our nature, which in us are oft finfull, and fo they might be in him. To this Aquinas answers, 2 Christ tooke our defects upon him to make satisfaction for us, to manifest the truth of his humane nature, or to be a perfect patterne of vertue unto us. But hee could not take upon him any finfull defects. for any of these causes. For First, finfull defects could not make fatiffaction for finne, as being that wherewith God is displeased. Secondly, sin could not manifest the truth of his humanity, for sinne belongs not to the nature of man, but is rather contrary unto it; for that was good and made by God, but fin is evill, and was brought in by the Devill. Thirdly, it could be no example of vertue, as being contrary unto it. But Christ tooke not on him all the defects of mans nature, for first he tooke not on him " defectus vitiosos, sed

pænales.

a Wicol de Orbelling Sentent. A funct.16 panales, not the defects of sinne, as ignorance, and pronenes to evill, which was impossible that hee should bee subject unto; but such desects as were punishments for sinne, as hunger, thirst, &c. Secondly, hee tooke upon him not defectus personales, sed natura= les, not personall defects, that accompany some particular persons, but univerfall, that accompany mans nature. But the defects in him did differ from ours in three b respects. First, respectu effectus, in regard of the effect, in us they often disturb reason, but in him they did not. Secondly, respectu prin= cipii, in respect of the beginning or cause of them, in us they often goe before the judgement of reason, but in Christ they were alwayes subject to reasons command. Thirdly, respectu objecti, in regard of the object, in us affection is not alwaies voyd of fault, being often carryed upon unlawfull objects, but in Christ it was not so, his

b August de Civitat. Die. li.14 cap 9.

e H.b. 4.15.

d Rom.8 3.

e Six. Sen.
Annot.244 ex.
His Com vii. 3
S nt.d 3
f syferd on
Pet 2 22.

g loin 1. 29.

his were like water put into a pure Glasse, and ours like water put into a vessell besmeared with durt, the more we stirre it, the dirtier it is. So that (notwithstanding his defects that hee tooke from us ) wee may fay of him with the Apostle, Though hee were touched with our infirmities, and in all poynts tempted as wee are; vet was hee without sinne. God sent his Sonne in the likenes of finfull flesh, flesh in truth, but sinfull flesh in likenes, not but that hee was fo farre from sinne . that he had no inclination unto it. The first Adam did ( as I may fo speake) make fin in the World, the second Adam did take away the fins of the World s; and it was necessary that hee that should fatility for the fins of others, should bee free from finne himselfel. The first Adam had a posse non peccare, a power not to finne, but the second Adam had a non possepeccare, no power

at

at all to fin, but hee was.

Integer vita, scelerisque purus ; Hee did no fin, neither was guile ' found in his mouth. Neither was it fufficient to manifest the whitenes of his innocency, that hee was free from fin, but hee was full of holines also. Semper manet sanctus in verbis, sanctus in actibus suis , sanctus in omnibus volunta= tibus suis, saith S. Cyrillk Christ was alwayes holy in his words, holy in his workes, holy in his affections. And because a sinner cannot make satisfaction for his owne fins, therefore hee ought to be holy 1 not legally onely, as the Leviticall Priests were holy, being consecrated by their legall sacrifices; but morally also, which the Apostle setts downe in foure Epithetes. First, hee fayes hee is and fantlus, holy. Secondly, innocens, innocent, free from all naturall corruption which the Priests of the Law were subject unto as well as the people. Thirdly, dutar g., impollutus,

k In Levit li.12.

I Para. in Heb.

m Heb 7 26

n ot

not defiled with any actual sinne. Fourthly, Macoustilly, Macoustilly, Macoustillo d'oi von duapraton, segrega=

tus à peccatoribus, separated from sinners: that is, guilty of no punishment due unto finners by the Law. So that his challenge made to his enemies must needs stand good, Which of you" convinceth me of fin. Habet hoc verbum Christi magnam fiduciam, (faith S. Origen. ) ° cum nullus hominum fidu. cialiter boc dicere patuerit, nisi solus Dominus nosser qui peccatum non fecit. This faying of Christ is spoken with great confidence, and carryes credit with it, seeing no man could say so much truely of himselfe, but only our Lord which did no fin. What was faid of Iob might be fayd of him , In all (that hee did ) hee sinned not, neither charged God foolishly i, e, wickedly. His innocency hath been cleered many ge-

nerations fince (even by his worstenemies) by Pilate that condemned

could

n John 8. 46.

p |ob 1 . 22.

q Luke 23.14. him, who accknowledgeth that 9 hee

could finde no fault in him, and pronounceth him guiltles three times, before he doth condemne him as guilty. And by Iudas that betrayed him, who confessed that hee had sinned r in that hee had betrayed innocent bloud. So that when Herod, and his men of warre arrayed Christ in a gorgeous ( or white ) Robe, they did therein after a mysticall manner sufficiently testify both the excellent dignity, and the innocent probity of the man, declaring plainly against themselves, that Christshouldrather have been acquitted as an innocent, then condemned as a malefactour, for in his innocency he did resemble the white colour of the Lily of the Vallies.

Fourthly, the Lily growes and flourisheth among Thornes, so Christ when hee was upon the Earth was conversant among sinners. Hee conversed with sinners, though hee were free from sinne. And this sence some

" Mat 27 4.

f Luke 23. 11.

D 3

ex

t Angelon. n

expound this part of the Text. Vbi per incarnationis sacramentum, huc in convallem lachrymarum, inter spinas & constortia peccatorum descendit, lilium effectum se esse testatur. When Christ by the mystery of his incarnation, did descend into this valley of teares, among thorns and sinners he shewed himselfe, to be the Lily of the Vallies.

v Mat. 9. 11 .

The Pharifees did wonder to fee Christ", eating with Publicans and sinners but it was no greater marvell to see our Saviour Christ conversant upon earth among sinners, teaching them, then it was to see the Devill with our first parents in Paradice, tempting them. He was the Physitian of soules (as you have already heard,) and sinners were his best patients, and why then should be forsake their company? No, hee shuns them not, but hee converseth with them, and feeds with them, and calls them to come to be cured. Miraris Indee (saith Chris-

Soloous

fologus W) cur Christus misceatur convivio peccatorum, qui propter peccatores & nasci voluit, & non recusavit occidi? Oblas tras cur peccatorum Vinum bibat, qui pro peccatoribus suum sanguinem fudit? dost thou admire (O thou Iew) why Christ should eat with sinners, who would bee borne for finners, and refused not to dye for them? Dost thou murmure that he wil drink the wine of finners, which poured out his blood for finners? What marvell is it, if hee doth eate at the table with finners, that fuffered death on the Croffe for them. Never did the Physitian leave the patient that hee would heale, nor God forfake the finner that hee would fave ? It was Christs office \* not to call the righteous but finners to repentance: not the righteous, for there were none so righteous, that have no need of his comming: Si homo non periffet, filius ho= minis non venisset, saith S' Auguriny, If man had not finned, the Sonne of

w Ser. 29.

x Mar. 9. 13.

y de Tempor.

man

z. Chryf.H. crom. apud Barrad.

n Enfebius
Pamph Eccles
Hills

man had not come : or else not to call the righteous, ironice, that is, not the Scribes and Pharisees which did justifie themselves, and thought themselves to have no need of the Physitian, but were just and righteous in their owne conceits, thinking all to bee bad but themselves. Like unto whom were those Heretickes the xadapa a in the primitive Church, that thought themselves (onely) to bee pure, and accounted all to bee finfull but onely those that were of their owne impure sect : And these were the Fathers and predecessors of the factious Schismatickes who (at this day) do walke in their steps, accounting all reprobates, but them of their ownetribe. But he calls those sinners, that feeling their fins acknowledge themselves to bee sinfull. But as the Lily (though it grow among Thorns) yet it loseth none of the whitenesse of his colour; or fragrancy of its fmell:

fmell: fo Christ, though hee converfed among thorny finners, yet hee reteyned still his innocency: neither did hee converse with them b, to confirme them in their finnes, but to convert them from them. Though hee did goe upon coales, yet was he not burnt. Though hee touched pitch d, yet was hee not defiled with it : though hee had fellowship with the proud, yet was not hee like unto them, though hee were conversant with thornie finners, yet was hee not infected with their fins, that kept on still the white Robes of his innocency; therein refembling the nature of the Lily of the Valleys : And now, I come to the limitation of his second attribute to the first Subject ( of the Valleys) I am the Rose of Sharon, &c.

Christ is not the losty Cedar, but the lowly Lily; not of the high Mountaines, but of the low valleys, that is, humility it selfe, Suorum Deus altissi-

ir

s,

ne

s)

Te

its ll: b Jansen Con-

c Prov. 6 28. d Ecclef. 13. 1.

c Dostor Dove

mus,

f A: wuft. de

mus, fuorum Christus humillimus as God of all others is a patterne of Majesty, so Christ of all others is a spectacle of humility; Hee was an example of humility in these respects ": nascendo, conversando, prædicando, miracula faciendo, & moriendo; In his birth, in his conversation, in his preaching, in his working of miracles, and in his dying. First, in his birth, Hee chose not his descent from the mighty Monarchs of Affyria, Greece, and Persia, but of the contemptible and despised Iewes : and among them hee chose not any rich Parents to bee borne of, but a poore Virgin, espoused to a poore Carpenter. What greater abasement could there bee, then that hee which thundred in the Cloudes, should cry in the Cradle? that hee should put off the glorious Robes of his immortalite, and put on the base ragges of our mortality; that hee which was cloathed with Majesty and honour, should

should bee cloathed with swadling clowtes; that hee that in Heaven was G o p not subject to his Father, in earth should bee man subject to his Mother that Mary that was a sheepe, should bring forth a Sheepherd; that hee which was the Father of Mary should become the soone of Mary; this mystery is so great, and the humility fo wonderfull, that, as Saint Bernard faith, it 8 is mirabiliter singulare, & singulariter mirabile, wonderfully fingular, and fingularly wonderfull. There is so great humility in CHRISTS birth, that S. Augustine faith h, Omnis hujus nativitatis schola:, bumilitatis est officina, the whole Schoole of Christs nativity, is a shop of humility. Secondly, hee shewed his humility in his conversation, because though hee did no finne ' yet hee tooke upon him the punishments for sinne, most humb- i Deflett vi. ly undertaking the infirmities of the body, and defects of the soule ( that areo

g la vrgil.

h Ser. 18. Nat

k John 13. 5.

1 Luke 22. 27.

m Barrad. Stella

# John 14 10.

are not finfull) as to bee weary, hungry, forrowfull, &c. And though he were Lord of all, yet hee becomes fervant to his owne Disciples, and k washeth their feete, telling them ' that hee is among them as one that ferveth. Whence some " conjecture, that Christ did use to serve them being at meat. Thirdly, hee shewed his humility in his preaching, because hee fought not his owne glory, but the glory of him that sent him. And hee tells his Disciples ", The words that I speake unto you, I speake not of my selfe. And when hee chose his Disciples to preach unto the World, hee chose not rich and learned men, but poore simple silly Fisher-men. Had Christ chosen such as Aristotle, and Demosthenes, to preach the Gospell, they would have fayd, they were so learned, that they might easily convince. they were so eloquence that they might easily perswade: but hee chose unlearn-

ed Fisher-men to confound the learned Phylosophers, that the glory might not be given to the meanes. Forthly, hee shewed his humility in his working of miracles; because when hee did great miracles, hee commands the parties on whom they were wrought, not to divulge them. When hee cured one of the leprofy o, and restored sight to the blind man hee chargeth them to tell no man. Mundavit leprosum Dominus, & jusit eum nulli hoc fateri boc fateri, docens quam esset alienus ab aura gloria, pompaq; jactantia, saint Chrysostome 4; In doing those miracles which Christ would not have told, he Thewed how farre hee was from vayne glory, and seeking prayse of men; but in those miracles that hee would have to bee divulged, hee shewes how free hee was in seeking glory to Go o: for hee bidds the man that was freed from his legion of divells, to fliew how great things ( not hee) but God had done E 3

o Mat. 8.4.

P Marke 8 26.

q Apud Barraci

r Luke 8. 39.

done for him. And all the time of his life wherein her wrought his miracles, her went about doing of them; he rode not in any stately manner, but went on foot: neither do I read that hee did ride at all, but once, when hee rode upon an Asse into Hierusalem.

5 Mar. 27.25.

t Hom. 67. in

And when he sate, Nunquam in sede, nec in pulvinari, sed in ipsa superficie terra, modo in montibus, modo apud fontes fedet & docet, saith St. Chrysoftome ; Christ sate and taught, not on any couch or chayre of state, sometimes on the mountaines, sometimes by the fountaines, alwaies on the superficies of the earth. Fiftly Christ shewed his humiltty in his dying. It was great love, and as great Humility for him, to be cloathed with the vaile of our nature, and to undertake the infirmities of our feeble nature, yet it was greater love (and humility too) for him, to be compassed with the shadow of death, and to

un-

Ser.z.

undergoe the penalty due to our finfull nature. What humilitie could bee greater then that the Lord of life should suffer a shamefull and ignominious death? that hee that was gloria Angelorum, Thould become opprobrium hominum? he that was the glory of Angells, should be made the "scorn of men, and despised of the people? Thus Christ (knowing that humilitie did suite well with the head, when the body was ficke with pride) bowed w the heavens and came downe; there was the humilitie of his Godhead, not putting it off, but clothing it with the raggs of flesh : And from his birth to his buriall, from the time of his being borne in another mans stable, untill the time of his being buried in another mans tombe, he alwaies shewed the humility of his manhood, never ceasing untill his head were laid under the earth, his foot-stoole. So that wee may say of him

u Pfal 22 6

m Pfal 18.9.

x De Paß. Dom.

him with S'. Bernard, Nemo illo sublismior, nemo humilior, there was none more lofty, none more lowly; none more high, and none more humble then he: he humbled himselfe (saith the Apostle) y and became obedient unto death, even the death of the Crosse, in all his humilitie shewing himselfe to bee the Lily of the Values.

y Philip.2.8.

7 Deut.23,24,

Now because it is not enough for us to seede on the Word, as the Israelites might on their Neighbours Grapes, and Corne, while they were in their Vine-yards, or Fields, but might carry none away with them; I shall (briefly) therefore shake some of the Boughes, and give some of the Fruit (of that which hath been delivered) to every one that will carry it away with him. First, therefore, in that Christ resembles the Flower of the Lilies, and is open towards Heaven, but close and shut

thut towards earth, wee may from thence learne to know the feat of our affection : to set our affections on things above, and to seeke those things. and not the things on earth. Christians receive their name from Christ. Et operæ pretium est, quod sicut sunt hæredes nomi= nis, ita sint imitatores fanctitatis, saith S. Bernard b: It is fit, that as they are heires of his name, so they should bee imitaters of his nature and conversation. Cons versatio autem Christi apertè docet præsentia contemnere, & ad futura spem dirigere, faith the same Father'. But the conversation of Christ doth plainly teach us to contemne present riches, and to love future, not to mind things present, but to place our hopes on things to come. Secondly, let us shew our love to Christ by pitty and compassion. Christ ( resembling the leaves of the Lilies) did extend his love downeward toward us: let us extend our love upward toward him. As Christ shewed

a Cot.3. 1, 2,

b Seaten. 24g.

c P.13 17.23.

c S. Aug fine

f Mito 10. 16

his love every way to us, so let us shew our love every way to him : hee loved us even when hee was dying; lee us love him all the time wee are living. Christus quanto pro me vilior, tanto mihi am paper son charior, faith S. Bernard d: The more vile the Sonne of God was made for us, so much the more deare should hee bee unto us. Domine Iesu, dilexisti me plus quam te, quoniam mori volui ti pro me &c. pudeat non redamare te pro tanto amore tuo"; O Lord lesu, thou hast loved me more than thy selfe, in that thou wouldest vouchsafe to dy for me it would be a great shame for me, not to love thee againe for this thy fo great love. Thirdly, Christ was an example for us to imitate in our conversation: and that in three respects. First, in innocency; we may learne from him to bee wife as Serpents, and innocent as Doves. Secondly, as Christ was conversant with finners, but not defiled with finne; fo though wee live in the midst of a finfull generation with Noah, yet let us not participate with the evill of the time, or place, or company where wee live. I doe but touch of these things by way of application to this subject, because I must speake more of them by way of explication in the next. Thirdly, and lastly, Christ is a patterne unto us of humility. Remember that Christ is a Lily of the Vallies. God B is the God of humble men, and humility was taught us from him by precept and patterne. Puderet te forsan imitari homi= nem bumilem, saltem imitare humilem deum, saith S. Austin. Thou wouldst bee ashamed ( perhaps ) to imitate an humble man, yet at least imitate a humble God. Men are ready to allow Court fashions, and the greater the personage, the sonner is the fashion followed: Now Christ our King tooke on him the fashion of humility, and all that meane to bee accepted in his court must weare the same fashion. For Quid

o

g Angelom in

h In John Tract. 23.

F 2 detestandum

iFlires Bein.

4 Mat. 10 24.

I Mars. Marul.

m Epijt.

detestandum amplius, quid gravius punis endum, quam ut videns deum coli parvulum factum, ultra apponat homo magnificare se supra terram? Intolerabilis impudentia est, ut ubi sese exinanivit Majestas. verniculus infletur & intumescat, saith S. Bernard; What is more to bee detested, what more worthy to be punithed, then that man, which feeing the God of Heaven to become little on earth, should exalt himselfe above earth? It is an intolerable impudency that where Majesty became low, a Worme should swell and thinke to bee great. The Disciple k is not greater then his Master, nor the servant above his Lord; Vt exaltari voluit sicut Dominus & humiliari noluit ficut fervus , That hee should be exalted as his Lord, that will not bee humbled as a servant. And therefore, Si vis capere celsitudinem Dei, cape prius humilitatem Christi, is the counsell of Saint Bernard m, If thou desirest to bee partaker of the glory of God, follow

follow Christ in the steps of humility, through this valley of misery, that thou may it ascend to him to the Mountaine of Majesty. Which GOD grant wee may all doe, for Iesus Christs sake. To whom with the Father, and the Blessed Spirit, bee all honour and glory, now and for ever more,

Amen.



## ROSEAND

## DELIVERED AT THE

LECTVRE,

In A s H B Y de-la-zouch in the County of Leicester.

By WILLIAM PARKS,

Master of Arts, and curat of Chelaston in the County of Derey.

ללמור עם ללמד

Discendum propter docendum.

LONDON,

Printed by John Norron, 1638.





To the Right Honorable, Sr.
RICHARD FENN, Knight, Lord
Major of the City of London; And to
the right Worshipfull, the Master,
Wardens and Assistants of the Company of HABERDASHERS,
LONDON.



May perhaps by fome bee accounted a right Sonof Levi', in taking too much

upon mee, to present this Sermon to your Patronage (Right Worshipfull) But it hath some right and title to you, who shew your selves to bee members of the Church, in

a Numb. 16.7

ex-

X

b Xinophon.

extending your charitie to them that are farre off. For you doe not take delight, as Cyrus did bis va rai chaidas apadas iprimin adepartus in putting men in good hopes, but in doing good deeds, & allowing good belpes, to maintaine manie of the Sonnes of the Prophets. Among the rest f was one that had an exhibition from your Company, while I lived in the University. This I could not forget, and therefore, though I cannot doe any thing CI Kings 2.7. by way of requitall with Davide de Sam. 9.7. to Barzillai, & Jonathan d, yet I must ever by way of thankefull acknowledgement, pray for your society, as S. Paul did

did for the house of Onesiphorus. The Lord give mercie unto you all, and grant that you may all sinde mercie of the Lord in that day.

e 2 Tim.1.16.

Your Honors, and Worships to bee commanded in all Christian duties,

WILLIAM PARKES.

A 2

al id





## ROSE AND

SOLOMONS SONG.2.1.

f am the Rose of Sharon, and the Lily of the vallyes.



Hen Balak brought Balaam to the top of Pifgah \*, hee shewed him onely the utmost part of the children of Ifrael, but did not shew

him all: so may I say unto you, I have brought you (as it were) to the top of Pisgah, whence you have seene A 3 (onely)

a Numbers 13.

6 Pf 45.1.

(onely) the utmost part of those mysteries that concerne our Saviour Christ. but cannot shew you all. Wee have all this while but floated on this deepe Ocean, we are not able to fadome it. It is as much impossible for the wit and learning of one man (though he have b the Pen of a ready writer, and c speake with the tongue of men and Angels ) fully to comprehend and expresse those mysteries, as it is for a Boy to empty the Ocean Sea with an Oyster-shell. And therefore as the Paynter Tymanthes, being to expresse Agamemnons griefe conceived for the losse of his daughter Iphigenia, drew him with his face covered over with a veyle, that men might conceive of that forrow which hee could not expresse: so I, being to speake of those great mysteries of Christs passion, refurrection, humility, and the rest, must needs have passed many things over with the veyle of filence, as being not

not able perfectly to decipher them. Now then give mee leave to alter the Subject of my Text, and to leave it as it concernes Christ, and to follow it as it respects the Church, for of that subject (the Church) doe some dexpound the Text, as you formerly were alfotold. For what is written of Ianus, that hee had two faces, praterita reto= spiciens, futura prospiciens, looking two wayes, forwards and backwards : fo may I say of this Text, it hath two faces, one looking toward Christ, the other toward the Church. I have already ( in some measure ) unveyled that, that lookes upon Christ, and now I must unmaske that, which lookes downe on the Church. As I have shew= ed how Christ doth, so now I must shew you wherein the Church doth resemble the Rose of Sharon, and the Lily of the Vallies.

But because the spouse ought to bee correspondent to the husband, the

deridee Para. phrist, Ayafworeth Brightman in locum.

mem-

life

members to be proportionable to the head, and the mysticall body of Christ conformable to himselfe, therefore I shall not need to seeke out any new and untrodden path, but follow the same way I have already gone. First therefore, as the rednes and prickles of the Rose did represent Christs passion, so doth it represent the Churches trouble and persecution: Secondly the sweet smell of the Rose doth intimate the Churches sweet conversation upon earth: and Thirdly the Ruses being dead in winter, but budding out againe, shewes theresurrection from the dead : First, of the first: as the Rose is full of prickles fo is the Church alwayes subject to persecution.

The sweetenes of the Rose is joyned with prickles which doth plainly teach, that, Qua jucunda vobis sunt (0 homines) trislibus permixta sunt, saith S. Bazille sweet and sowre, mirth and mourning are intermixed together in this

c Hom. at Provide Provide Pro-

life, Nocte pluit tota, redeunt spectacula mane, faith the Poets. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy commeth in the Morning, faith the Prophet , Inlius Casar was one day renowned in the Senate, accounted a Pater patrie, a father of his Country; often Prator, and invested with princely honour; The next day, (as it were) you may see him loose his honour, and bee reputed a tyrant, accounted no pater patria, but holis patria, no father of his countrey, but a factor against it, no Prator to defend it, but prædator, a preyer upon it to spoyle it, not saluted, but slaine in the Senate, and from an Emperour turned to a dead carkaffe. Our Saviour Christ himselfe when hee was upon the earth did find this intercourse of things, for upon Mount Tabor hee was transfigured with glory that his face did shine, upon Mount Calvary hee was diffigured with forrow that confusion did cover his face, and such is the

f Virgil

g Pf. 30.5.

B

con-

condition of man in this life, sometimes he is lifted up on the Mountaines of prosperity, and sometimes hee is cast downe into the valley of adversity: sometimes hee walkes in the sunshine of peace and plenty, and sometimes in the shade of trouble and persecution. But the Church doth usually lie open to that lash: for a short space (indeed) she had peace under the Emperour Constantine, but presently in the time of Arrivs shee was troubled with persecution. To Solomons Temple there was purpureus ascensus, as the latine version renders it h, a covering of purple : that Temple was a type of the Church, and the covering shewes that it weares the colour of the Rose. Oportebat Christum pati, It behoved Christ to suffer', and afterward to enter into his glory: must hee suffer before hee could enter into his owne glory, and is the Disciple greater then his Master, to thinke to come thither with-

b Cant 3. 10.

i Iuke 24. 46.

without it? Christi nativitas à martyriis infantum statim copit, per quod ostensum est, saith S. Cyprian k, neminem esse à periculo persecutionis immunem. Quam ergo gravis causa sit hominis Christiani, servum pati nolle, cum prior passus sit dominus?" & pro peccatis nostris nos pati nolle, cum peccatum suum proprium non habens, passus sit ille pro nobis. The martyrdome of Infants did follow presently after the birth of Christ, by which is shewed that there is no member of the Church free from the prickles of persecution. And how grievous is the case of a christian man, that the servant will not fuffer when his Lord hath fuffered before him? that we should not suffer for our fins, when he that did no fin, fuffered for us? Noahs Arke was toffed up and down by the waves of the floud, &rested not untill it lighted on the 1 Mountaines of Ararat; that Arke was a type of the Church, which is toffed up & down in the Sea of this World by the waves of

k Ad Thibarit de exhar. mart. Epift. 56. pag. 126.

1 Gen. 8. 4

B 2

per

m in Convers.

n Epist. r.

o Gen. 4 8. Mat 23.35. p Ron. 4.16.

q Gal. 4 30. Gen. 21. 9.

persecution one wave following in the necke of another, and findeth no rest, untill it come to that mountaine of holinesse, that haven of happinesse where it would be. Persecutio nunquam deeft Christiano, neque & Christo, faith S'. Bernard m, as Christ was not, fo the Church must not looke to bee free from persecution. Erras, frater, erras, si putas unquam. Christianum per= secutionem non pati, saith S. Hierom "thou art deceived (brother) thou art deceived, if thou thinkest that a Christian at any timeshould not suffer persecution. Look backe to the infancy of the Church, when there was but one family in the world, the family of Adam, where was the Church, and you shall see Cain persecuted Abel, and flew him. Abraham was the father of the faithfull, and yet in his family, Ismael persecuted Isaack, and mocked him 9. Israell was Gods peculiar people, yet what did they suffer in the time of their foure foure hundred Yeares captivity in Ægypt, under Pharaoh. After they came out of Egypt, how were they afflicted by the Canaanites, the Moabites, the Ammonites, the Philistines which were as prickes in their eyes, and thornes in their sides? What cruell persecution did they suffer under Antiochus Epipha= nes, in whose time all were commanded to bee put to death that would not depart from the law of their God. Descend downe to the time of the Gospell; what exquisite torments have been inflicted upon many Myriads of Christians, under the ten most bloody and grievous persecutions, some being torne in peeces with wild beafts, as Ignatius, some broyled on the Gridiron, as Lawrence, some stoned to death, as Metras, others burned to death by a flow fire, as Iulianus " of Cappadocia, and the rest put to that accuratenesse of torments that wee may fay of them, as the Christians did certifie the Pope. B 3

t

r Numb.33.55

12 Macab. 6.

t Euseb. Eccle. bif. ib. 6 cap. 40. u Ibi lib. 8 cap. 39. w Turk. Hist.

x Euf.li. 8. cap.

Pope w in their letters, that they did every day suffer that which Christ their King suffered but once, to bee dayly buffetted, scourged, peirced. So that what would now be accounted cruelty, was then accounted the Emperours clemency \*; When he commanded the right eye of the christians to be plucked out, and the empty place seared, and the left leg to bee cut off, and the place feared, and condemned them to the minepits. And to shew that they did seeke rather jugulare animos, quam corpora, to flay their soules then their bodies, they did but them to fuch lingring torments, as if they meant to kill them often. Morsq; minus pænæ, quam mora mortis habet. It is a greater payne to be long a dying, then death it selfe : yet I read that one Peter, a Page to the Emperour, refusing to sacrifice at Nicomedia. was hoysed up, on high, and his naked body scourged, and his flesh rent in peeces with the lash of the whip; and

y Idem ibi.cap.

and when the bones were bare, they powred vineger mixed with falt into the wounds, and bruifed parts of his body, and then hee was layed on a Gridiron with a flow fire under, to confume him untill heedyed.

Quis talia fando \*.

Temperet à lacrymis ?

If it bee a griefe to us seriously to consider those torments, what was it in them to endure them? Not long after the tenth persecution ended, the the heresy of Arrius, raised up by the divell, brought as greivous persecutions on the Church, as ever the Pagans did; dying and colouring the Easterne churches with the bloud of Gods Saints, for the space of four-score yeares together. Since that time what have some of the Romanists effected? With what rage and malice, fire and saggot, have they proceeded against all those that prosesses

z Virgil.

a Perkins on H:b.11

note

b Conr. Theodor.

not their errors: What be excommunications, burnings, killings, hangings, they have inflicted upon the true professours of the Golpell; the massacre of Paris, and the death of many thousands of Christians (both in this Kingdome and others) do sufficiently testify. So that the Church did seeme to dwell (like the man in the Gospell') among the tombs: And Christianus', seemes to bee crucianus: A christian may seeme to bee derived as well from Christs crosse as from Christ.

c Marke 5. 3.

d Luther loc. Com. Tit: Calamit.

Sanguine fundata est Ecclesia, sanguine crevit.

Sanguine succrevit, sanguine fiz-

The Church was begun with the blood of Abel, strengthened by the bloud of the Prophets, increased by the bloud of the Martyrs, and all that will live godly in Christ Iesus shall suffer persecution. If any should aske the

d'z Tim.3,12.

thereason why the Church is subject to the prickles of persecution. I answer it is both in respect of the godly, and in respect of the wicked : An iron being put into the fire, and heat red hot, is afterward layd on the anvill, and then every blow struck upon it doth make it the fitter for use, but it makes the instruments, the Anvill, and the Hammer, the harder: so Gods children being heat red hot (as it were) in the fire of perfecution, it makes them the better, and the more plyable to gods service, but it makes the wick ed which are the instruments to bee the harder. First, then, it is for the benefit of Gods children, Candidior tribulationum aculeis efficieris, The Church is more white and beautifull by the prickles of persecution. The Church is compared to the Moone &: Ecelefia sicut luna defectus babet, & ortus fre= quentes, sed defectibus suis crevit, & his meruit ampliari, dum persecutionibus minuitur,

ıt

11

e

ne

f Angelom:in

g Sol. Song. 6.

h Hexam.li. 9

minuitur, & martyrio coronatur, faith S. Ambrose ; The Church ( like the Moone ) hath rifings and fettings, fulls and waynes, but flice increaseth by her defects, and deferves to be augmented, while shee is lessened by perfecution and crowned with Martyrdome. We cannot bee crowned except wee fight, neither can wee triumph except wee have got the victory, when we fight and conquer, then may tropheys bee set up. In the shop of a Teweller, the Tewells would not bee so beautifull, if there were no iron infrumens to furbish them. Solomons Temple had never been so glorious, if there had been no craggy stones to build it : so Gods children would never be so beautifull in themselves, nor so glorious in the fight of God, if they had no persecution to try them. When we sit by the waters of Babylon, then wee remember thee i, O Sion. As the Prophet David sayes of himselfe k, It

i Pfal. 137.1. k Pfal. 119 17. is good for me that I have been afflicted; so may many a member of the Church say, it is good for mee that I have been persecuted. Man (saith one 1) is like unto a vine; now a vine (as hee there speakes, and we here know)unlesse it be pruned, it will streight way grow wilde: so man, if hee have no persecution, no crosse layd upon him, hee will bee ready to forget himselfe, and to spurne against his maker. Persecution then is like the wind, which doth cleanse the good grayne though it blow cold; like the fire which doth purify the good gold, though it burne hot: for the godly are bettered by it, their knowledge is sounder then it was, their faith stronger, their humility lower, their goodnes in generall is greater, towards G o D, towards their neighbours, and towards themselves. And as it is for the benefit of Gods children, and tends to their salvation; so it proceeds from the malice C 2

1 Clem Alexand

n In Gen. lib.

S. Augustin.

Efay 10. 5.

lice of the wicked, and ends in their destruction. Iniquitatis filii, cum clarorum hominum virtutem repræhensionem quodammodo sue pravitatis existimant, veluti immanes quadam fera cradeliter ru= unt, &c. saith S. Cyrill "; The children of wrath, when they fee the vertues of good men reprove their vices, they rage like wilde beafts : for when by their works of light the works of darknes are reproved, they cast the darts of envy and malice against them, which doe oftentimes returne back on their owne pates. The fire of martyrdome ", which doth purify the godly, doth damnify the wicked, the one it doth enrich with eternall happines, the other it shall consume to dust and ashes. Ashur is said to bee the rod of Gods anger° and wicked men are but the rods of his wrath, with which though he doth sometimes chastice his children (and suffer them to bee perfecuted) yet at length hee will burne the the rodds. But some may object, and fay, that in those dangerous times of the primitive Church, the Church might properly be said to bee the red, Rose of Sharon; When a man might pay deare for Christ, as Christ payd for him; even his life; it being (then) almost impossible to follow Christ without Martyrdome. But now (thanks bee to God ) there is no fuch danger , no Christianus ad Leones? let the Christians bee cast into the Lions den, no pulling before Magistrates, but every one may practife christianity, as well as professe it without danger; nay it is dangerous indeede to every one that doth not professe and practise it (in our Kingdome) and God continue it solong as the Sun and Moone endureth so that the Church may now seeme to bee free from the rednes, and prickles of persecution. To this answere is made , that to suffer perfecution is taken not onely for that which

p Cary Theeple apud Cofmi in 2 Tim. 3. 12

q De Civitat dei

r Gal 4. 21.

∫ Gen.21 9

t Wissons Christ.

which Gods children suffer from openenemies, but for that griefe and forrow which they suffer in their owne bowells. Patiuntur hanc persecutionem non in corporibus, sed in cordibus, faith S. Austin, they fuffer this perfecution not outwardly in their bodyes, but inwardly in their soules. And there is a persecution of the tongue, as well as a persecution of the hand. The Scripture prompts me to it, where it sayes · Ismael persecuted Isaac, when hee mocked him. So that there is disguised as well as open persecution, by word as well as by Sword, by deceit as well as violence, from false brethren as well as from professed enemies. And this kind of perfecution I cannot say that our Church is free from; for that Schifmaticall brood that whips it in their words, and scourgeth it in their Pamphlets written against the government and governours of the Church, what doe they they eliebut (as much as in them lyes) 1 v kill the Prophets, and stone them that are fent them. And who so patiently beare w those wrongs, and fuf fer those dilapidations in their credits, what are they else but Stephens, meere Marcyrs. And this kind of persecution must the Church never looke to bee free from. Though shee may sometimes bee free from stripes and strokes, yet shee is never free from mocks and fcoffs; though shee may bee free from deaths and imprisonments; yet never from raylings and revilings; though fhee may bee free from murtherings, yet not from murmurings, and so never free from the pricks of fecret persecution. By this wee may partly see whether wee belong to the Church or no. Wee live in the latter dayes, wherein many that should countenance Religion do contemne it being like unto the Negroes \* that paint the Divell white, and

# Mat-23-37.

cxposit of the Geffell on S. Stepholay.

x Heylens Geogra

the

off.

the Angels black, because they themselves are so. Dost thou then like the weather-cook turne thy felfe by their wind, and conforme thy felfe to them for feare of losing a favour, or getting a frowne?thou art not a true member of the Church. Againe, we live in a scoffing age , wherein true Christians are accounted by many, as S. Paul was y, the filth of the World, and the offscouring of all things. Art thou ashamed to be religious, because thou art affrayd to be scoft at ? Art thou affraid to be flaundered, as the Lords Priests2 were by malicious Doeg? Art thou affraid to be rayled at, as David was by freviling Shimei ? Art thou affrayd to suffer affliction with the people of God? How then wouldst thou bee contented to be stoned b with Steven? to bee cast into the fiery Furnace, with the three children, or into the a Dan. 6. 16: Lions Den with & Daniel? to have thy tongue cut out, thy skin pulled

1 Sam. 22.

4 2 Sam 16.7

6 Ads 7.59

c Dan 3. 23.

of " thy head, and bee fryedin a Pan, as the Mother and her seven sommes ? doe those small skirmishes make thee afraid, and thinkest thou thou couldest endure the heat of the battayle? Questionles if those small blasts make thy soule to totter, why then the storme of persecution will plucke thee up by the roots. Wee stand betweene prosperity and adversity, as Goliah did betweene the two troopes f, and wish fisam 17.10 that wee had a man to fight withall. But if the least storme arise, the hearts of many fayle. So that as Infephs brethren sayd unto their Father, Vide an filii tui tunica sit, an non? & see whether it bee thy sons coat or no? so may I say to the Church concerning any of her members , Vide an sit filii tui tunica, an non? if hee bee free from all manner of persecution and trouble, it is a figne hee is a baftard and no Son: but if his coat be dyed in bloud, if hee can shew the right colour, it is

0

ee

ne

ve

edAF,

a figue that hee doth belong to the red Rose of Sharony of 121 bear and the control of the red

Secondly, the fiveernes of the Refe represents the Churches sweet conversation upon earth, and that both in words and works. The Iweetnes of the lips increaseth learning, saith Solomon ; good words are fweet words, & the Church and the members thereof must speake them, and not unfavoury speech. We are strangers and pilgrims in this life, for here we have no abiding place, but we feeke one to come. Now strangers and pilgrims are knowne by their tongues, for he that is of the earth, speaketh of the earth! Earth is at their hearts, and their breathes imell of it. But the children of light ( which are not so wise as the children of this generation ') concerning the things of this World are dumbe: they know not the language of the lyar ", but their tongues are tipt with truth. They are ignorant of the language of the black mouth-

h Prov. 16. 21

H.b. 13 14

k john 3. 31.

! Luke 16.8.

m Eph.4.25.

ed swearer, but his communication " | " Mat 5 37is yea, yea, and may, may, in a word, hee knowes not the language of Babel, but speakes the language of Canaan. Now there is the sweetnes of Honey in godly discourses, but the bitternes of Gall and Worm-wood in wicked words, and although wicked men may (happily) thinke that they find fiveetnes in them, yet they are like the Bee, though they bee Honey in the mouth, yet they have a sting in the tayle. They are like S. Iohns booke o, though in the mouth they bee sweet as Honey, yet in the belly they are bitter, for what Solomon faid of a whorish woman , so may I say of them, though in the mouth it be sweet as an honycomb, yettheir end is bitter as Worm-wood.

Secondly, the Church must also Thew sweetnes in her works. Ad pradicationem nova gratia, fecuta est novitas vita, in his qui crediderunt qui con= versationem suam inter gentes habentes bo=

nam

0 Rev. 10. 10

P Prov. 5 4.

q In Cantics

r Hier: Card Siniach, Somai les. cap 30.

f Voi prins

t Gilleber in Cantic.Ser. 33.

nam, Christi erant bonus odor in omnitoco, faith S. Bernard 9. Newnes of life did follow the preaching of the new grace of the Gospell, in them which did beleeve, who having their conversation honest among the Gentiles, were a sweet savour unto Christ in every place. For, Planta qua bene olent bonam famam & nomen pollicentur, those Flowers that smell sweetly doe signify a good name and report. Odor bonus, est nomen bonum, & hoc de bono opere, tanquam de flore odor, procedit, saith Saint Bern. A liveet smell is a good report, which proceedes from good workes, even as sweetnes doth from the Flower. The good works of the godly cast a sweet smell even to them that are with-. out. Bona quidem per se sunt aromata virtutum, & per se redolere videntur, sed cumulatiore gratia flagrant, cum de unetione spiritus, suavitatis asperguntur odo= ret, The spices of vertues are good, and smell sweet in themselves (if in the heaheathen) but they give the more fragrant smell, when they are sprinckled with the odor of Iweetnes by the anoynting of the spirit (in the godly) good works are an odour of a sweet smell unto men, and a Sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing unto God, as the Apostle tells the Philippians " concerning their charity. The Prophet Hosea ", speaking of the Church sayes, it shall grow as the Vine, the sent thereof shall bee as the Wine of Lebanon. It is written \* of some Vines that in the time of their florishing , they send forth so sweet a smell, that not onely the Vine-yards themselves, but the Countrey round about, is refreshed with the sweet sayour thereof, so that if any Serpents bee neere, they, are driven away by the sweet smell of the Vines; so the conversation of the godly is no lesse fragrant, not only in themselves, but also to all that are round about. A good name is better then

# Phil.4 18.

w Hof. 14.7.

x Dancus from Pleny lib.14.7.

Z I Pet 2. 12.

4 In Pfal. 42.

b De Paff Dom cap.45.

c Eph: 6.16.

y Eccles 7.1. then precious oyntment y. And the godly have their conversation so honest among the Gentiles z, that they may by their good workes which they behold, glorify Goo in the day of vifitation. And their sweet conversation doth drive away Serpents; whether we expound Serpents, as S. Austin doth ', Serpentes vitia tua sunt, The Serpents are thy fins ; then their works of light expell those workes of darknes : or else as S. Bern. doth b, Quid melius per Serpentes, quam diabolicas suggestiones accipiamus? What is better meant by Serpents, then the fuggestions of Satan, which doe secretly creepe into the minds of men; then if wee looke upon that brasen Serpent Christ lesus, which was lifted up upon the Crosse, by the eye of a true and lively Faith working by love, and fending forth the sweet savour of good works, we shall bee 'able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. The smell

of

of the Churches oyntments 4 ( that is, her graces) is better then all spices, and the smell of her garments, is like the smell of Lebanon. But when Isaac smelled the savour of sacobs garments, they were nor his owne, for Rebeccah tooke goodly rayment of her elder Son Esau, and put them on Iacob. As hee was cloathed with the rayment of his elder brother which gave such a sweet smell : so the Church is cloathed not with the garment of her owne righteousnes, but shee puts on the glorious robe of her elder brother CHRIST I E s v s, by which she is made the sweet Rose of Sharon.

Thirdly, as the Rose is dead in winter, but shoots forth againe at the Spring: so though the members of the Church ly a long time in the grave, yet at the Spring of the resurrection they shall rise againe. As long as the root is quick, the branches will not die, but flourish. Christ is the root, we are the branches, and

d Cant. 4. 10,

c Gen. 27. 15.

f Rev. 5. 5. & 22.11.

our

h I Cor. II 3. Eph. 5. 23. i I Cor.12.27.

k Church Hom. of the Refurrection.

ljere.n. 31.33.

m Pe kins on the Creed.

our root did not rot in the ground, but rose from the grave, to certify us, the branches, of the resurrection. As long as the head is above the water, the body cannot bee drowned. Christ is the head, wee are the body; but Christ our head is risen from the dead, and his members, the Church, shall assuredly rise from death to the Resurrection of life. As Christ & dyed not for himselse, no more did hee rise againe for himselfe, but for us. Quia tu Redemptor noster suscepit mortem, ne mori timeremus ; ita ostendit resurrectionem, ut nos resurgere posse confideremus: for as our Redeemer dyed that wee should not be afrayd of death, so he rose againe, that we may bee sure of our Resurrection unto life. Go ps Covenant with his Church 1, I will be their Go D, and they shall be my people, m is an everlasting covenant to last for ever; but if God should leave his people in the grave for ever, how could they

bee called the people of GoD? for " | .\* Mabez. 31. God is not the God of the dead, but of the living, and therefore seeing Gods Covenant is everlasting to all, the Faithfull must rise from the dead, that God may alwayes bee said to been eir God, and the godly be alwayes faid to be his people. It is an especiall pare of Gods glory to shew forth his mercy on the godly, and his lustice on the wicked, to render o to every man according to his deeds. But here in this life Pall things come alike to all, P Ecclef. 9. 2. to the righteous, and to the wicked. and therefore there must bee a refurrection of the dead, that the godly may have a reward from his mercy; and the wicked from his justice. Resurrectio quidem communis est , & ante tribunal Christi necesse est in corpore justos stare & impios, Dei hoc dictante justitia, ut pietas & impietas in operatoribus de= bitis sipendiis donarentur saith Saint Cyprian 9. The refurrection (indeed) of De Refurece.

ır

e-

ir

le,

or

ole

ey be

e Rom. 2. 6.

is common, and it is necessary that all, both good and bad, stand before the tribunall of Christ, that both piety and impiety might receive a due wages in the workers thereof; Et qui finem haber e contempserunt in malis, infinita clanderentur ultione in pænis & qui gloriatifunt in cruce, cum crucifixo regnantes, beatæ fierent perennitatis participes; And that they which refused to have an end in evill, might bee shut up in payne without end; and they which gloried in the Crosse, might reigne with him that was crucified, and bee partakers of bleffed everlaftingnes. For God, as hee is principium effectivum in creatione, refectivum in redemptione, so hee is principium perfectivum in retributione as hee is the efficient cause in the creation, the reficient in the redemption, so he is the perficient in the retribution. Why should any Epicure, or Atheist deny, that the omnipotent and everlasting God should bee able to raise mens

r joh de Comb. Comp. Theol. lib. 4.cap. 11. mens bodies out of the dust, when experience tells us; that miserable and impotent men , can by art make the curious workmanship of glasse? Minus est Deo reparare quod erat, quam fecisse quod non erat ; It is a lesse matter to restore that which was, than to make that which was not. And therefore though the members of the Church should have their bodies torne in pieces by tyrants, or consumed to ashes by fire, or rent by wilde beafts, or devoured by Wormes or Fishes, yet they doe but rest a while in the earth; for at the Resurrection they shall bee restored, when they shall rise from their graves, as the Rose ( in the Spring ) from the ground, for therein the Church refembles the springing Rose of Sharon. And so I come to the limitation of this attribute ( of Sharon.)

The fruitfulnes of Sharon shewes, that though the Church before Christ were barren like Sarah, or Rachel, yet

by him it is made as fruitfull as Leah. But I promised to proceed in the same method that I did before, and therefore (the word Sharon fignifying any Field) I must shew you that the Church resembles the Rose of the common Field in

three respects.

t In loc, Ser. 47.

" Doftor Dove on Cant.4.12.

w Mat.15. 13.

First, the Flowers of the Field grow by the providence of God without the helpe of man. Campus ex semetipso flores producit, absque omni humanæ diligentiæ adjutorio faith S. Bernard': The Field produceth her flowers without the industry of man. So the Church is not planted by mans industry, but by the providence of God. The Trees " grow not in it naturally as the Trees of the Forrest, which beare no Fruit : but they are planted by the labour and industry of the husbandman, as the fig-Tree.God planteth all that are in the Vine-yard of his Church, as our Saviour saith w, Every plant which my heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted

up. It is he that brings forth bis vine-yard out of Egypt, & plants it too. The Church is a Vine-yard, God is the husbandman that plants and keepes it, it is watered by the word, dressed by the Ministers, refreshed by the comfortable Sunshine of the Gospell. And here is a difference : betweene Solomons Vineyard and his that is greater then So= lomon . Solomon let out his Vine-yard . to keepers, but Christ keepes his in his owne hand, hee useth the help of men sometimes, but as tooles rather then agents, hee works by them, they cannot worke but by him. And as it is planted by him, so is it watered by him. As Promotion (so grace) commeth b neither from the East, nor yet from the West, but from God. What the Apostle saith of salvation, may bee said of all grace, It is not of our selves, lest any men should boast. We have no more power of our felges, to work grace in our felves, then these

# Pfal. 80 8.

y Dostor Hall Ser. on Ifay 5.4.

2 Mat. 13. 42. a Soi. Song. 8.

6 Pfal 75.7.

c Eph. 2. 8:

inferiour bodies have power to give light, when the light of the Sunne is absent. Adams ability was lost by his fall, now Sampsons locks are cut off, and therefore we may bee carried whither our leader (the divell) will, fince wee suffered that Dalilah, sinne, to steale away our strength from us. Adam per malum velle, perdidit bonum posse, by willing that which is evill, hee loft his ability to performe that that is good; and fince him every mothers fon may bee called, as the wife of Phinehas named her child, dIchabod, for in him this glory departed from us. God now worketh in us ' both the will and the deed. Ipse aspirando nos prævenit ut velimus quod adjuvando subsequitur, ne inaniter velimus, faith S. Gregory ; Hee by his preventing grace makes us to will that which by his affifting grace he makes us to performe. The sap and juice that is in the Rose Tree proceeds from the root, and the grace that is in

d T Sam 4.21.

e Phil. 2. 13.

f In Ezek. lib. 1.Hom. 9.

the members of the Church (whether it be gratia infusa, effusa, or diffusa, in thought, word or worke) doth proceed from God the Fountaine of grace. Non est gratia ullo modo, nisi sit gratuita omni modo: it is not grace except it bee given gratis. So that the planting of the members in the Church and the watering them for their growth, being planted, proceeds not from themselves but from God; for therein the Church resembles the Rose of the common Field.

Secondly, the Rose of the Field is not inclosed to a few, as the garden Rose is, but lyes open to all; so the Church is not inclosed in some narrow nooke or corner, but is spread through the World, and lyes open to receive all. Before Christ, I srael was Gods peculiar people, the nation that hee had chosen to set his name there, to them hee gave his word, with them hee made his covenant, and shewed them the presence

g Pfalme 147.

h Calv. Inflit.

i Exod To.

of his god-head. He dealt not so with other nations, neither had s the heathen the knowledge of his waies. So that then Iacob was the man that prevayled with God, and his posterity, the onely Ifrael that faw him. He suffered other nations to sit in darknes, and in the shadow of death. Then Ifrael was "the Lords Son that was his darling, others were strangers. Ifrael was received into his care and protection, others were left to their owne blindnes: Israel was honoured with the presence of God, others were excluded from coming nigh him, in a word there was a generall darknes over all the Land of Ægypt, among the Gentiles : but in the Land of Goshen iamong the Israelites there was light. But fince Christ the mercy of God was no longer inclosed within the narrow confines of lewry, but the glorious light of the Gospell shined through the World. Before Christ the Church was

a garden inclosed, k a spring shut up, a Fountaine sealed, but now she is the Rose of the common Feild. The Kingdome of heaven, is likened unto a man, which fowed good feed in his Field. The Church is the Field, the feed is the word, and the Gospell shall be preached through the World ". And to this purpose the Church is called Catholique Catholica, id est, per totum orbem diffusa, saith Saint August. " because it is spread through the World. And so the Epistles of S. Iames, S. Peter, S. Iohn, and S. Inde, are called Catholique, because, they are written not to a particuler person, as to Timothy, &c. or to a particular Church as to the Romans, &c. but either to all the Iewes every where, or to all the Christians in the World. And to this purpose also the Apostle calls P, the P Heb 12. 22. Church manyone Conventus universalis, the generall affembly, to shew the Universality of it. The Apostle S. Peter affirmes 5. Of a truth that God is no respecter

k Sol. Sonz. 4

1 Mat 13. 24

m Mat 26. 13.

n Epift 170.5

Willfors chrift. Dictio-

g Aas 10. 34.

r Apud Amand Polan.

S Annotat in Chrysit.

specter of persons, but in every nation, hee that feareth him, and worketh righteousnes, is accepted with him. Though the Church bee but one, yet it lyes open to all that will come unto it. Vnus est Christus, per quem omnis gens omnisque lingua fide & confessione unita est faith Ignatius ', there is but one Christ (and one Church ) by whom (and in whom) all nations, and tongues are knit together. Quid enim est Ecclesia aliud, quam congregatio fidelium in unitate fidei advnita saith Oecolampadius f. What else is the Church of God, but the congregation of faithfull people ( spread through the World ) knit together in the vnity of faith: the Church is spread every where through the World; and admits any persons in the World into her bosome. And therefore the Church is not to bee tyed to Rome, or any one particuler place, Rome may with no better reason be sayd to bee the Catholique Church, then the head may bee fayd fayd to be the whole body: for if it bee! a true Church, yet it is but a part of the ChurchCatholique, and not the whole. And to say the Catholique Church of Rome, is all one, as if I should say the catholique Church of Canterbury, or of London, or a particular universall Church, which how harsh it sounds the most simple may easily understand. After this I beheld faith S. Iohn and loe, a great multitude which no man could number of all nations, and kindred, and people, and tongues, stood before the Throne, and before the Lambe, cloathed with white Robes, and palmes in their hands. The Church is collected out of all nations. Accipit Ecclesia omni tempore volentes credere nemini prorsus occludit se huc festin= anti, sed liberum & licitum est volentibus quolibet tempore, nullo impediente, ad lu= cem veritatis adduci faith S. Cyrill v. The Church receaveth all that will beleeve at all times, shee is shut to none that come unto her, but it is free and lawfull

t Rev. 7. 9.

u In El lib. 5

F 2

to

to all that will (there is none to hinder them) to come to the knowledge of the truth. And therefore if thou hast no benefit by this Rose, if thou art no member of the Church blame thy selfe, for shee is not the inclosed Rose of the Garden, but the Rose of the common Field.

Thirdly, the Rose of the Field is for profit, as well as pleasure, and is healthfull in many medicines: so the Church is profitable, and healthfull to her members. Shee restores health to her members by monitions and admonitions, strengthning them that are sound by wholesome Doctrine, and restoring them that are sicke by good discipline. But if any member be past cure then.

w Ovid Meta-

\* Immedicabile vulnus Ense redendu est,ne pars sincera trahatur.

Then shee cuts it off by the spirituall sword of Excommunication. Those that are in the barren Wildernes, with-

Out

out the pale of the Church are miserable, there is mors in olla, death is in their pot, but those that are within the pale of the Church in that fruitfull Field, are happy, there is health in her bosome. The Church of God is the House of God x, the Pillar and ground of truth. And shee is very profitable unto her members, Extra Ecclesiam nulla salus, is a common saying among the fathers, without the Church there is no salvation. Without the Church they cannot attayne unto the right of adoption, whereby they that live faithfully, are made actually the children of GOD. They that continue in the Ship of the Church are secure y, though the Sea make a noyle, and stormes arise, but hee that utterly forfakes the Ship of the Church, and swims either in the cockboate of herefies, or upon the windy bladders of his owne conceipt, shall never touch the land of the living. Those that are out of the Church have not the

x 1 Tim. 3-15.

y Dodor Boy

F 3

com-

communion and interest of the members with the head, and being no part of his body how can they lay claime to his benefits? or challenge right to the Kingdome of heaven. And to this purpose heaven is called the inheritance of them which are fanctifyed by faith in C.H.R.I.S.T.

₹ Acts. 26.18.

Nothing now remaines to be spoken of at this time, but onely that every one fill his pitcher with this water, and carry it home for his owne use; which that wee may doe; I shall briefly apply. First, in that the Church is the red Rose by persecution, every one should learne patience in his affliction. Remember the sufferings of Christ, wee doe but sup of that Cup which hee dranke quite off. Nibil est quod non aquanimiter tolleretur, si passio Christi in memoriam revocetur. \* There is no affliction so great, no crosse so grievous that will not easily be borne by us, if wee doe rememberthe sufferings

a St. Gregery.

rings of Christ: And therefore Univers sapro eo sustine, qui prius pro te Majora sustinuit saith S'. Bernard b suffer some persecution for his sake, that suffered more for thine. Secondly, let us labour for our Renovation that our newnes of life may fend forth a sweet savour in our conversation. Thirdly, in that the Church and the members thereof shall rise from the dead : it affords matter of our consolation: For so the Prophet David speakes' Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoyceth, my flesh also shall rest in hope: for thou wilt not leave my foule in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thy holy one to see corruption. Fourthly, seeing the Church is of Gods owne plantation, let us looke to our fructification. Our Saviour putteth forth the parable of the Figge tree to us d A certaine man had a Figge Tree in his Vineyard, and hee came and fought fruit thereon three Yeares: Every one of us is a Tree planted in the Vineyard of the Church: God

h de Resinves.

c Pfa. 16-9 10.

dLuke, 13. 6.

hath

hath expected fruit of us three Yeares, in generall of the whole Kingdome, under the Raignes of our most gracious Soveraignes, Queene Elizabeth, King Iames, and King Charles ; in particular of every private persons, the three ages of mans life, infancy, youth, old age : let not us give him the bark of an outward profession onely, nor the leaves of good works, but the fruit of good workes. Lastly, seeing the Church is open to all commers, let every one of us labour to be of that corporation, that we may bee partakers of all the benefits that accrew thereby, and that being members of the Church militant, we may reigne with the Church triumphant. Which God grant unto us all for Iesus Christs Take. To whom with the Father and the holy Ghost, three perfons and one God, be al honour, and praise, now and for ever. Amen.

## ROSEAND LILY.

## DELIVERED AT THE

LECTVRE,

In As HBY de-la-zouch in the County of Leicester.

By WILLIAM PARKS,

Master of Arts, and curat of Chelaston in the County of Derby.

ללמור ללמד

Discendum propter docendum.

LONDON,

Printed by JOHN NORTON, 1638.

Larvy Pott John

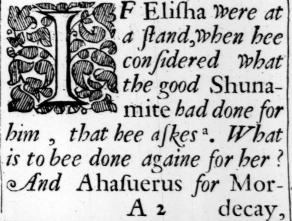




To

The Right Worshipfull, his much Honoured friend THOMAS PARKS, Esquier.

SIR.



a 2 Kings





To

## The Right Worshipfull, his much Honoured friend THOMAS PARKS, Esquier.



F Elisha were at a stand, when hee considered what the good Shunamite had done for

him, that hee askes a. What is to bee done againe for her? And Ahasuerus for Mor-A 2 decay,

a 2 Kings

b Efther. 6.

decay, when hee had receaved a good turne from him that hee saies b, What bath beene done to him for this? How much more maie I saie of you, you have been beneficiall to mee from my Youth, what dutie and service shall f returne to you againe? f confesse that if there bee anie thing in these my weake labours that maie deserue acceptance, you maie justlie challenge it as your owne, Without whose bountie I had not lived in the Univerfity, nor attained to that small measure of knowledge that f have. And therefore (being able to doe nothing else)

F commit this Sermon to your Patronage and protection, and your selfe, your fruitfull Vine, and Olive branches to the protection of the Almighty, defings of his Right hand, and of his left, to fill you with the blessing of grace beere, and of glorie bereafter.

e

-1119-)

Yours, to be commanded in Christ Jesus

WILLIAM PARKES.

nomin 1000 .... . . 25,05 1



## ROSE AND

SOLOMONS SONG.2.1.

f am the Rose of Sharon, and the Lily of the wallyes.



Hat S. Ierome sayes
of the Catholique
Epistles, of S. Peter,
S. James, S. John,
and S. Jude. Breves
esse pariter & longues,
that they are both

Thort and long, so may I say of this Text, it is short in words, but long in mat-

a Ad Paulin.

b Prefat in Pfal. 87.

matter. And what S. Austin fayes b, of the fourescore and seaventh Pfalme. Bres vis est numero verborum, magnus pondere sententiarum', that it is short in regard of the number of the words, long in respect of the weightines of the matter : so may I say of this Text, it is a short sentence, but full of sence conteyning matter for (almost) as many Sermons as it conteynes words. It being but five words in the Originall, yet is the subject of foure Sermons. Three of them have been delivered formerly, and now the fourth, (the same affistance strengthing, and the same parience expecting) is to be profecuted, in shewing you wherein the Church resembles the Lily of the Valleys.

First, the Lily is open toward heaven but close and shut toward earth, so the members of the Church must have their affections open on things above.

Secondly,

Secondly, the leaves of the Lily extend outwards and bend downwards, a fit embleme of the Churches chatitie.

Thirdly, the Lily is white, which fignifies the Churches innocency.

Fourthly, the Lily growes among Thornes, and in the Church there is a commixtion of good and bad, in these respects the Church (also) resembles the Lily of the Valleyes.

First, the Flower of the Lily is listed upward, and spreades toward heaven, but toward the earth it is close, and shut, whence the Church and the members thereof, may learne a surfum corda, to list up their hearts and to open them towards heaven, but to keepe them close shut toward earth, and earthly things. Wee read in the Law, That those creatures, which crept on their bellyes, were uncleane, so under the Gospell, those men that have their bellies, their affections, creep-

C

e

):

he

ea-

th,

uft igs

lly,

. L.v.II 42.

ing

ing on the earth are uncleane. Si de= lectat te mundus, semper vis esse immundus, si autem non te delectat mundus, jam d In John Tr. tu es mundus saith S. Austin d, If the World delight thee, then thou art still a worldling, and uncleane, but if the World delight thee not, then art thou chosen out of the World, and art cleane. Man is called a sport in Greeke, men in an hour from looking upward, his name may put him in mind of his nature, and duty, to looke upward, and to contemplate on heavenly things. And whereas all other creatures looke downward toward the earth the place from whence they were taken.

> Os homini sublime dedit, calumque Videre

> Iussit, & erectos ad sidera tallere vultus.

e Ovid Metamorph. Lib. I.

Saith the Poet man hath his countenance erected toward heaven, to looke up to that place to which

hee

hee should aspire. God made not man crooked (but upright) for who can streighten that which hee hath made crooked? but man boweth downe himselfe by his owne inventions, and makes himselfe like that woman in the Gospell 8, which was so bowed together that shee could in no wife lift up her selfe. But as the eye is placed in the head to looke upward, so is the heart in the body open to contemplate on heavenly things: For if you looke into an Anatomy, you shall see that the heart is broad above and narrow below, fignifying it should bee open toward Heaven but contracted toward the things of this life. The windowes of our spirituall temples, our bodyes must be built like the windowes h of Solomons Temple at Hierusalem, broad without, toward Heaven, and narrow within: But such is the nature and disposition of the sonnes of Adam, that Maryes choyce cannot content them, B 2 that

iir

d

n-

nd

ke

ice

Vi-

lere

un-

nich

hee

, to o

Eccles. 7.29 and 15.

g Luke-13 - 11.

b 1 King. 6 4.

k 1.1at. 6. 3.

Luk. 10.40 42 that Vnum necessarium, that one thing that is needfull, to fit and heare Christ and to be busied about heavenly things, but with Martha wee are too much cumbred with earthly affaires: we do not first k seeke the kingdome of God and the righteousnesse thereof, as good Christians should doe, but wee are carefull about earthly things as the Gentiles used to doe. Some writers make mention of some people that goe upon all foure, I feare there are many such people in England, that by grovelling

1Gin 3.14.

m Pet Lomb. Sch. 1.6.2.dift. both in our minds and affections. But though man bee made in terra ", &

exterra, non tamen ad terra, nec propter terram, sed ad calum, & propter calum, in the earth and of the earth, yet hee is

upon earth and earthly things. This is the Divells policy, who labours that dust should be our meat as it is the Serpents that we should bee not onely

filii terra, made of the earth as indeed we are, but toti terrei altogether earthy,

not

not made to the earth nor for the earth but to Heaven and for Heaven. Wherefore then lay you out your money for that which is no bread? Are wee not all strangers and pilgrims in this life? if we be not we shall never be Citizens in the life to come ? And thereforeas worldly, so spirituall pilgrims, must carry nothing, but things neceffary. The Patriark Iacob in his journey to Padan Aran , defired onely bread to eate, and rayment to put on. So Gods children in their journey towards Heaven, desire only a viaticum, sufficient to suffice them by the way. The two things that hinder us in our journey towards Heaven, are finne, and earthly superfluity ( for it is as hard°, for a rich man to enter into the Kingdome of Heaven, as it is for a Camell to goe through the eye of an Needle ) And therefore first let us disburthen our selves of sinne, and lay that buithen on Christ, and

n Gen 28. 20.

o Mar. 19. 24

then

ter m,

t

d

d

e

1-

e

n

h

ıg

is

rs

he

ly

ed

ıy,

lit

5

is

not:

p Ciccro de

o De Abrab

r Ciccro.

then disburthen our selves of earthly Superfluity, and cast that burthen on the poore, send our riches before us, that wee may the better follow after to Heaven. The heathen Oratour can tell us, that our life is?: commorandi, non habitandi locus, a place for some short abiding, not for a long dwelling. Wee are non habitatores terra, sed accola, faith S. Ambroje 9. Inmates for a time, and not permanent livers. And to this purpose our life is called ', diversorium, an Inne, and a cutthroat Inne it is, where the figne forward is the Maremayd, but backward ship-wracke, where the flesh is Hostice, and the Divell (too commonly) host. Gluttony is the Cooke, drunkennes Tapster, and wantonnes Chamberlayne, and these are as officious as may bee, to give entertaynment : but when the reckoning comes to bee paid, the hoast (the Divell) himselfe brings in a long Bill, with an Item for this,

and

and an Item for that sinne, and conscience stands at the Barr and justifies all, the end is that prison from whence, thou shalt not come out, untill thou hast payd the uttermost farthing. Yet many setting their affections on that triple headed Geryon of riches, honour, and pleasure, remember not the time of their reckoning which is at hand, when they will want the precious merits of their Saviour, to pay the deare price of their sinnes. And therefore as the Birds that feed below, do build on high, so wee though wee live below on earth, must build above, and lay up our treasure in heaven. Si diem mortis nostræ in mente ha= bemus, statim ea, que in hoc mundo sunt, despicimus, saith S. Bernard', If wee did but consider, how short a time wee have to live in this World, wee would not set our affections on it, but on a better. The Hedghog that hath rouled his skin full of Apples, when hee

ne

t-

r,

nd

to

he

he

igs

115,

nd

∫ Mat. g. 16.

vivendi Ser. 8.

hee comes to the hole, hee wipes

u Job 1. 31.

them all of : so hee that hath fethered his nest with the things of this World, yet when hee comes to his hole, hee leaves all behinde him. Naked came wee into this World, and naked shall wee goe out againe "; Let us not then bee like the Raynbow, which though it seeme to bee in the Ayre, yet the ends tend to the earth, but rather like the Ceder that stretcheth forth her branches toward Heaven. Interpositio terræ w Magir. Phis. est causa Eclipseos lunæ. W The Interposition of the Earth betweene the Sunne and the Moone, is the cause of the Eclipse of the Moone. And the interpolition of earthly things betweene the Sunne of righteousnes and us, doth blind our spirituall eyes, that wee cannot thinke of Heaven; but are like the Moone, when wee are at the full (oftentimes) in greatest opposition to that Sunne. As G o D said unto Abraham. x Exi de

terra tua, Get thee out of thy Countrey, and from thy kindred, unto a Land that I shall shew thee, so doth hee speake unto the Church in generall, and to every member in particulary, forget thine owne people and thy fathers house. This World is our Fathers house, the Land wherein we are borne and bread, but we must forget our fathers house, forsakez, this homestall, and seeke for another in the spirituall Chanaan one to come in Hierusalem that is above. Wee must say to the World ( when it is gotten into the closet of our hearts ) as Amnon did : to his sister, get thee hence. And if it will not bee gone, we must thrust it out, and lock the dores of our hearts, and shut the windowes of our affections after it. It is written of the Squerill and Badger b: that in their nests and dens they have two holes, one they open towards the Sunne, but that the other to keepe out the blufte-

S

e

1-

S

de

ra

y Pfal. 45 10.

7

on the Epift. for Eister day.

a s Sam. 13.

.,

b Pliny.

blustering winds: so let us open the dores of our hearts toward the Sunne of righteousnes, but keepe them shut against the blusterings of this world. Wee should bee like Aristotles vessell which being made of virgins Wax, would keepe out the falt water, but receive the fresh : so let us refuse the bitter waters of Iericho, and receive the waters of life. If wee affect Ierusalem that is above, let us neglect Babilon that is below. Remember then (O man) that thou art a man, looke not downward on the earth with the eyes of thy foule, as beafts doe with the eyes of their bodies. Goe not on thy belly with the Serpent, grow not with the Bramble with both ends towards the earth, but be lifted upward toward Heaven, that thou mayst appeare to bee a member of the Church which doth herein resemble the Flower of the Lily of the Vallies.

Secondly, the leaves of the Lily

do

do extend outwards and bend downwards, so the Church and the members thereof must extend their charity, not onely to them that are neere, either by propinquity of neighbour hood, or affinity of kindred, but even to them that are farr off. The heart of man doth derive the heat, not only to the breast and belly, and the parts that are neere it, but even to the toes, and fingers, and the parts farthest of, so the members of the Church ought to extend their charity not only to them that are neere, but even to them that are farr off. The Henn (they fay ) will cover no Chickens under her wings, but her owne, or fuch as shee supposeth to bee her owne; So many will make much of none, but those that are of their owne kindred, as for strangers there is no hope of any thing for them. Nature c, in the generation of a Frogge, being afrayd that her matter will not hold out,

n

ot

)-

d

pch

V-

ily

do

c A istoile.

doth bestow so much on the breast and belly, and the parts neere the heart, that there is little left for the legge, whence it is that the belly of a Frogge is so large and swelling : so many feare that their substance will not hold out, they shall not have inough for their friends and kindred; and therefore their donation is very small for them that are farre off, I speake not this, to streighten the bowells of affection, and charity in men to their owne kindred, for in some they are straitned too much already, in these degenerate dayes of ours, wherein a man may oftentimes meete with a more lively heat of affection from strangers, then from their owne friends and alliyes. The Apostle faith 4 : hee that provideth not for his owne, hee is worse then an infidell. Cosmogra= phers make mention of some Anthropophagi, men eaters, that live neere the Caspian Hills, that the children use to

d : Tim. 5. 8.

re

10

e-

or

ot

af-

eir

are

efe

ein

1 2

om

nds

hee

hee

gra=

bro-

the "

e to

ear.

eat their fathers when they grow old, that they should not bee devoured of the Wormes. This custome I feare may bee found among many, when as the Prophet speaks c: the fathers eat the sonnes, and the sonnes eat the fathers, they oftentimes confuming and devouring the estates one of another. The Apostle makes it a note of the last dayes ': that men should bee without naturall affection. How can they bee spiritually affected 3, that are not naturally affected & Can they love Gods children that have no love to their owne bowells? or they be friends to their enemies, that are tirants to their friends. So that it is true that charitas inicpit in seipsa, charity beginns at him. Yet non definit in feipfa, it must not end there, but goe abroad to our neighbours Constantine the great got great favour of the people, and added to the Christians dayly by providing for the poore, infomuch that the

e Ezek 5. 10.

f 2 Tim. 3. 3

g Absal Fune-

h Fufeb. Feel f. Hylling scap 9. i Reusner. Symb. k Nazian in vita ejus.

1 1 Sam. 25.

m Luke 16.

the Gentiles noted the love of Christians one to another, and by their charity were sometimes compelled to confesse the God of the Christians. Stipis pauperum thesaurus divitum, was the word of the good Emperour Tiberius Constantius, The rich mans treasure is the poore mans flock. It is recorded :: of S. Bazill the great, that in a famine hee did not onely give to the poore fuch as hee had himselfe, but exhorted all others to set open their Barnes and to doe the like. But now there are many churlish Naballs that fay , Who is David? and who is the Jonne of Iesse? there bee many servants now adayes that breake away every man from his Mayster. Shall I then take my bread and my water, and my flesh that I have killed for my shearers, and give it unto men whom I know not whence they bee? There is many an unmercifull Dives m, that will not part with a crumme, though it might make them to gayne a Crowne. For Da parva ut magna

magna recipias saith S. Bazill ". He that gives little shall receave much. And damna lucrum, " The crummes that fall from thy table are lost, and yet not lost if thou givest them to the poore, for he p: that hath pity on the poore lendeth to the Lord, and that which he hath given will hee pay him againe. We have few tender hearted Davids, whose q, heart is like wax, and melteth in the midst of their bowells: many like the Leviathan : whose heart is as firme as a stone, yea as hard as a stone, yea as hard as a peice of the nether Mil-stone, wee have few like them lob speakes of, whose breasts are full of Milke, and their bones moystened with Marrow, many like David in this, when his', bones were dryed, or burnt up, as an hearth: few that can say with Iob v, I have not eaten my morfell my felfe alone, but the fatherles hath eaten thereof: but many that with-hold the poore from their desire:

it

r.

r,

ny I

ny

irt

ike

ut

gna

n In Div. p.29.

o Div. Chryfift.

p Prov. 19. 17.

q Pfal. 22. 14.

r job 41. 24.

[ lob 21. 24.

t Pfal. 103.3.

u Job 31. 17.

w Lukcag. II.

desire. Our Saviour Christ bids w: him that hath two coates, to impart to him that hath none, but rather we are like

I Kings I.I.

y Gen. 16 2.

ζ Gen. 29. 2.

a Luke, II.7

cap. 28.

David in his old agey wee thinke all clothes to little to get \*, heat in our selves; We are like Isaacks well Rehoboth, that signifyes roome, we have roome inough to receive, but when we should give any thing, we are like the Well of Haran 2: that had a stone rowled upon the mouth thereof; Our hearts are made, like the dore of that hard hearted neighbour in the Gospell a hard to bee opened I cannot rile and lend, much lesse would hee rise and give. It is true that there are among us some merciful Samaritans, good Corneliusses, charitable Tabithaes, and Dorcasses, (and God increase the number of them.) But all the members of the Church should bee open handed and open hearted : for Aurum habet Ecclesia, non ut ferret , fed uteroget, faith Saint . Ambroffe. b The Church hath gold not

to

to keepe but to give: we being Gods stewards to dispose of them to them that need. I have read of some Tartarians, that say the custome of their countrey gives nothing to the poore. I say not that this custome is knowne in our Hamisphere, or come into our countrey; and yet if wee looke into the disposition of many, we may find them of the nature of a spunge, which will eafily take in water, but will let nothing goe without squeezing; their hands are dryed up like Ieroboames ', they cannot stretch them out to give an almes. But as the Load-stone draweth iron to it, so should our charity draw the poore unto it : there are but few fuch Loadstones found among us. Many are rather like a kind of Loadstone reported to bee d, in Ethiopia, which hath two corners; the one draws iron to it, the other expells it from it. Many make use of that corner that repells from them. When they have need

ır

at

nd

nd

us or-

or-

ber

the

and &

efia,

aint

not

to

c Kings 13. 4.

d Pliny.

of

of a poore mans helpe, then they will draw him unto them with the one corner, but when their purpose is brought to passe, then they will turne alterum angulum, the other corner, and bid him be gon. Anglers use little Flyes to catch great Fishes, and many use poore friends to effect great matters, But they use them as they doe their shornes, to draw on some good turne on themselves, and when they have done they put them away. Poore men have alwayes need of the rich, and rich men have sometimes need of the poore. And as they doe make use of the poore to helpe them at their need, so should they releeve them at their need. Wee must put on', the bowells of mercyes, and be mercyfull fas our father in Heaven is mercifull. Let us not shut the bowells of our affections, but rather belike the water, facile fluit in terminum alienum, it easily floweth into others bounds. But let us not be like the

f Luke 6. 36.

the Wells which keepe all in themselves, as those that are every man for himselfe, and doe nothing at all for others: nor yet like to the Rivers, which water the banks onely that are neere unto them, as those that extend their charity only to their kindred, nor yet like the Sea, which sendeth forth waters into the Rivers which returne back againe thither, as those that give their gifts, as they toffe the ball at tennys, to them that will bandy it back againe with requitall : but like the raine that falls from the Clouds in all places, fo if we belong to the Church, we must shew our charity to the lowest member of the Church : for therein the Church and the members thereof must resemble the leaves of the Lily of the Valleyes.

It is written of the Eagle 8, that standing on a rock, she looketh on three things, upward toward the brightness of the Sunne, about her to the place

D 2

whither

ì

mi= nto

'n

re

ec

es,

ea-

the

her

like the whether she would flee, and downward on her crooked talents : so must we looke on three things especially, upward toward Go D fetting our affections on Heaven and not on earthly things, about us on our neighbours, extending our charity to them : and downward on our felves : which I am now to speake off: for Thirdly, as the leaves of the Lily are white within and without, so must the Church manisest the whitnes of her innocency, and although there are fome blacke Lillies, yet are the white the pureft. The Priefts were cloathed with white. h: linnen cloathes, when they did enter into the Sanctuary, fignifying integrity and fincerity of conversation, that all that will come necrethe Lord, must be cloathed with those white robes; If the King of Babell chose children i: in whom there was no blemish to stand in his Pallace. Shall God alimit any that are full of spots, to stand in the

Court

b Ezek.44.17

Daniel 1. 4

Court of Heaven? The Temple of forcune was built with the whitest stones that could be got, being fetched from Cappodocia in the Emperour Neroes time, and shall not the Temple of Ierusalem (the Church ) bee built with white stones, such as the Patriarkes, and Prophets, and Apostles, fuch as Zacharias and Elizabeth', that walked in all the Commandements; and ordinances of the Lord blameles. But how can the Church be fayd to be white, when she fayes of her felfe', that she is blacke? S. Augustin answers " : that shee is nigra per naturam, formosa per gratiam, black by nature but white by grace. Nigra per inlurens peccatum faith S. Bernard " black through sinne that dwelleth in her, for= mosa per justitiam imputatam, beautifull by Christs righteousnes imputed to her. She is black as the tents of Kedar, which S. Ierome sayes : doth signify darknes it selfe, but comely as the curtaines of Solomon, which were of filke and embroydered

n

e

1-

H

1-

ne

in

nd

ny

he

art

& Luke 1. 6.

1 So! Song. 1. 5

m De Temp. Ser \$6.

n In Cant Ser.

o Super Cant Canties.

p Domin p.Oct. Epiph. q Jer. 13.123.

r De Temp. Ser.

f Brightman on the Rev. t Rev. 1. 14.

2 John 1. 29.

broydered with gold Æthiopiffa non mus tat colorem faith S Bernard : the Athiopian cannot change his skin, 9 but Iudæam præcædit Æthipia peccat; exnenda nigredme & fidei induendo candore, saith S. Austin : Æthiopia surpasseth Iudaa in this, in putting of the blacknes of sin, and putting on the beauty of faith. Some thinke, S. Iohn doth describe the Church when he fayth. 'The head and the hayre were white like snow and like wooll; The Church hath the whitnes of wooll, by reason of the fimplicity, and innocency wherewith the Saints are endewed, which are oftentimes in the Scripture called sheepe, and no mervaile, for Christ their head is called a Lamb , and of Snow, because the whitnes thereof is not naturall, but adventitiall. And as Wooll, so the righteousnes of the saints, will quickly bee fowle and dufty of themselves, but being washed in the cleane Fountaine of Christs bloud, it will be

as white as Snow, or any thing else that exceedes in whitnes. But how can the Church be fayd to bee all white? for if we take the Church generally there are many profane Esaus crept into her bosome : and if we take it strictly for the multitude of beleevers; how can it then be fayd to be all beautifull? for if the best of us looke on our selves in the glaffe of Gods Law, we shall finde that we come farr short of the beauty of holines. I answer, if the Church beetaken generally, then is her beauty like Tofephs coat, party coloured, but if it be taken strictly, then she may be sayd to bee all beautifull, though not in sensu diviso, but in sensu composito. In her selse w, her spots are as many as Lazarus fores, or lobs botches, but through Christ, she becomes as beautifull as Absalom. Ipse qui venit sine macula, & ruga, extensus est in tendicula, sed propter nos non propter se, ut nos faceret fine macula, & ruga saith S. Aust, x he that came without spot, or wrinckle, was **ftretched** 

on the Cant

x De verb.
Apost. Ser. 29.

ll be

d.d

V

ne

he

th

of-

pe,

ead

be-

tuoll,

vill

em-

y In Cant.

2 Lament 4.7,

stretched out upon the tenters, but not for himselfe, but for us, to make us with out spot, or wrinckle. It is a custome with us, that what belongs to the Bridgroome, the Bride hath title to: fo the Church, hath Christs, her husbands. beauty imputed to her . And therefore S. Bernard notes y: that the Church is rather sayd to be dealbata, then alba, not white as having her beauty in her felfe, but whited, as receiving it from Christ. We are all Christians, and in our Baptismegave up our names to Christ lesus, as prest Souldiers to fight under his Banners, but let us examine our selves, whetherwe weare our Captaines coulers, truely white. Are we like the Naza= rites of Israel2, purer then Snow, and whiter then Milke? or rather are there not many like them spoken of in the next verse, whose visage is blacker then a coale? Are there not many that would be counted white, and yet with the Camelion can turne of any couler, and others others like the Leopard are full of spots, if not groffe Æthiopians, that cannot be washed white, farre from the nature of the Lily; Noahs arke was pitched . within, and without, the Lily is white within and without, and so must the members of the Church. Which manifests two forts of men not to belong to the Church: the one is of them which though they thinke themselves to be white within, yet it cannot be perceived by their outward actions, but that they are black. They are like Solomons Temple, though it were overlayd with gold, yet was it built of craggy stones. But the members of the Church must be like the Kings daughter : as she was all glorious within, so her cloathing is of wrought gold, as they must have a good conscience before God, So they must haue a good conversation before men. Secondly, others there are that would fayne seeme white without, and yet within are full of gall & bitternes. They

4 Gen. 6 14.

b Pfal. 45 13.

E

rs

are

are like the Egiptian Temples; which were very faire and beautifull without, but when you come within to their Janetum fanetorum, you shal find nothing but a Crocodile, or a Serpent which they did worship; So they carry a faire shew outwardly, but let that Serpent Satan bewitch their hearts (which should bee Gods holyest) with sinne. The Greeke word immen, is a title given to Players and Jesters, which doe resemble the persons of great men: as Roscius was Agamemnon in shew, though he were Roscius in deed, they are the children of father Abraham in shew, but children of their father the divell indeed; they imitate Gods Saints in fincerity, Dum Curios fimulant, & Bacchanalia vivunt, they live in iniquity. Sin hath some of those properties which Bellarmine makes, to be true notes of the true Church. First, for universality, it hath infected all the men in the World. Secondly, for antiquity it is almost as old as the world, beginning

c De Not. Eccl.

in Paradice. Thirdly, for perpetuity, it will last untill the worlds end. Fourthly, tor succession it became haroditary to all Adams posterity, like Naamans lepro-Sy 4: to Gehazi, for ever, but it wants vifibility, and therefore that witch (hipocrify) rayleth many up to appeare to be true Samuells, when as indeed they are very divells. The hypocrit doth confift of meere formalities, and effe videaturs, and had rather be a member of the Church visible, then of the Church Catholique. Whereunto shall I liken the men of this generation, they are like to mud-walls, though they may be white without, yet they are full of durt within; like Swanns; whose feathers are very white without, but their flesh is the blackest of all Birds; like the elder Tree which hath a very white wood, but beares black stinking berries. Goliahs fword lay hid under an Ephod, & David said. There is none like that, give it me. There is nothing like the deceit of a feeming E 2

ir

te i=

ve

obe

or

en

y it

ng

in

d 2 Kings. 5.27

er Sam.21 9

i HAR. of Bel.

He is a black pawne, in a white coate. Wherefore as Daniel fayd to the King, OKing be not deceived, viz. by the faire shewes of the Preists : so fay I to these men, let not their faire presence of holines, be a cover of their inward wick ednes. Let them cease to be like the Apples of Sodome, that grow by the lake Afphaltites, that had a faire shew without, but within were nothing but dust, and ashes. It was Julians policy to make his followers feeme holy, that he might the better better deceive, and Satan, Julians mafter maketh his followers seeme holy, that he may the better deceive. But they may blind the worlds eye, yet Gods eye, Qui minime fallitur, quia minime clauditur: which is alwayes open, and never shut, cannot be blinded. Moses Leprosy in his hand, was as apparant in the eyes of God; as Vzziabs "Leprosy in his fore-head. God sees secret hypocrisy, as wel as open profannes, & will discover it, and them. Qui color albus erat, nunc est contrarius albo.

t

e.

0

of

Ks

nd

is

ne

er

They shall appeare in their perfect colours. Wherefore, let every one endeyour to be like Ezechiells booke ": that was written both within and without, like the Arke : that was overlayd with pure gold, both within and without: like Maries box ": that without was Alablaster, and within full of oyntment, and like the Lily that is white both within and without. And thus the Church appeares to be all beautifull, for to the perfectest beauty, is required the k Ds. Barnard.

1 Exod 4.6.

m 2 Chron. 26

n Ezech. 1.10.

o Excd.25.11.

P Mat. 26.7.

best

best commixtion of red, and white: so that the Church may be said to be white and ruddy, being blanched in the white robes of innocency, & guilded with the bloud of Martyrs, she is a red Rose by her Martyrs, and a white Lily by the virgin innocency of the Saints. And though she sometimes want the crown of Martyrdome, yet she must alwayes have the white robs of innocency: though she seemes sometimes not to be the red Rose of Sharon; yet shee must alwayes be the white Lily of the Vallies.

Fourthly, the Lily growes among Thornes, & in the Church the white Lillies flourish among black Thornes. In Adams family there was a Cayne, as well as an Abel: in Noahs Arke there was a Cham, as well as a Shem, or Iaphet, beasts uncleane, as well as cleane: in Abrahams house there was an Ishmael, as well as an Ishackandit is no greater wonder to see a Iudas among Christs Disciples; then it was to see a Saul among the Prophets.

9 2 Sam. 19,

Wicked

Wicked men in the Church are mixed with true beleevers, and the Tares must grow among the Wheat: for the Church is a Lily among Thornes. Which may fitly be applyed against the Separatists, that leave this Lily because of the Thornes, and goe out of the Church by reason of some bad. They have a hear in them but it is a strange fire, raked out of the embers of passion, blowne with the bellowes of pride, and selfe conceitednes, and mayntained by the fewell of faction, which makes them at first to be faxardens, and then draco volans; Like humid bodyes facile in alienis terminis difficulter in suis continentur : they first crosse the Church and then the seas, first run out of reason and then out of the Church. Cursed be such heat; for it is cruell,O my foule', come notthou into their secret, be not thou united to their affembly. When Lot and Abraham fell out, Lot would needs part with him, though he told them that they were brea-

e

il.

In

ell

52

fts

ms

an e a

n it

ets.

ced

r Gen. 49. 6.

[Gen. 13. 8.

t Augustin in Pfal. 129.

# Gen.13. 11

w John 19. 36

x Ads 15 37.

W. Coreat

brethren '. So those Separatists fall out with the Bishops of our Church, and fay as those in S. Austins time : Sepere. mus nos, let us goe out from among them. And although wee say to them, Servate pacem keepe the peace and love the unity of the Church, yet they will goe out from us, although (I feare ) oftentimes with Lot v into Sodome, when the other with Abraham may enter into the Land of Chanaan. When Christ was upo the earth washis head, pricked with Thornes, his body was scourged, but w: not a bone of him was broken: so now he is in Heaven though his head be pricked with contentions (although it might bee wished that it were not pricked at all) yet let us not breake his bones. We must not part Paul and Barnabas, for , Markes fake, as long as wee agree in fundamentall poynts of faith, we must not goe out of the Church; by reason of some errors, or imperfections. |

I wrote unto you faith the Apostley: not

11

n

0

as

th

w.

W

be

n it

not his

ar-

vee

ith,

;by

not

to

to keepe company with fornicators: yet not altogether with the fornicators of this World, or with the covetous, or extortioners or idolators, for then must yee needs goe out of the World. Should Noah have forsaken the company of all wicked men, he must have gone out of the World . for the whole earth was corrupt and: filled with cruelty, save onely he and his family. What S. Austin determined against the Donathists; may be urged against these men, non propter malos boni deserendi, sed propter bo= nos malitolerandi. We must not forsake the good for the bad, but must tolerate the bad for the good. The Tares must grow among the Wheat without a feparation, untill the Lord of the harvest make a seperation, at the generall day of judgment, and the Lily (the Church) must grow among Thornes. But as the Lily among Thornes: retaynes the whitenes and sweetnes, so must the Church among thorny sinners and hæreticall

z Gen. 6. 11.

a Epist. 48.

h Angelom in

c In Cant. Ser.

reticall Christians retayne her innocency And this is b: no disprayse to the righteous but rather their prayle to be godly among the wicked, and not to be infected with the thorny conversation of others but to shine as lights in darknes. Non mediocris est titulus profecto virtutis inter pravos vivere bonum, & inter malig. nantes innocentia retinere candorem, magis autem si his qui oderunt pacem, pacificum te prebeas & amicum, saith S. Bernard. It is no small vertue, to be good among the evill, to be innocent among the nocent, and to be peaceable among the turbulent and contentious: herein they are like the Lillies themselves, which by their owne beauty adorne the Thornes by which they are pricked. It is no great matter to seeme to bee good among the good, and according to the Proverb.

Cam fueris Roma, Romano vivere more.

When you are at Rome, to doe as the Romans doe, but the godly must reteyne

their

their innocency in the midst of the tents of Kedar she must reteyne her whitenes, for therein the Church resembles the Lily of the Vallies. And so I come to the limitation of this second attribute, to the second subject (of the Vallies) I am the rose of Sharon and the Lily of the Vallies.

The Church is the low Lilly of the low Vallies, which may teach humility to all the members thereof. Humility is the first step toward Heaven, and I know not how they that, misse that may ascend any higher. How can any thinke to thrust into Heaven by that, that made Satan be cast out? pride was the divells ruine, and can any thinke it should be his raysing? And that we may practise humility wee may learne it d: from things without us, from things we carry with us, from things about us, and from God above us. First, from things without us, even from the earth it selfe,

C

ne

d.

ee

ng

e.

the

ne

eir

d Destruct

F 2

from whence we came and whither

we

Gen.3. 19.

we must: for God tells Adam , dust thou art, and to dust thou shalt returne. So that when thou feelt the earth remember thy Sepulchre. And what cause hast thou to be proud?if thou consider that the earth which is now under thy feete, shall shortly bee over above thy head? Secondly, we may learne humility from what we carry with us, even from our selves, if we consider our ingresse into the World, our progresse in the World, and our egresse out of the World First, the ingresse of mans life is miserable, he beginning his life with teares; as bewayling the mileries of his succeeding ages. Secondly, the progresse of mans life is short and transitory, but a f: spannlong; and as short as 8: a tale that is told. Thirdly, mans egresse is bitter and terrible, and therefore death is fayd to be h, colleger reciperates the King i: of terrors; And what cause (then) hath man to be proud, when at his birth his conception is detestable, in his life his con-

f Phil 39. 6. g Phil, 90 9.

1. Armot.

conversation culpable, and at his death his dissolution terrible? Thirdly, wee may learne humility from men about us, when we consider that many of our brethren are poore, or lame, or blind or miserable, and we are made of the same matter in the same mould: and deserve it as well as they. And therefore what cause hast thou to be proud, thou being as subject to those calamities as they, & knowest not how soone thou mayst fall into them? Lastly, we may learne humility from God above us. God reresisteth the proud k: but giveth grace to the humble. The humble are in Gods eyes as Starres are in mans, though they seeme little yet they are great. Quanto quis humilior fuit de seipso, tanto major erit in conspectu dei saith S. Austin 1: how much the more humble a man is in his owne eyes, so much the greater is he in the fight of God. We bow our selves at the example of some great person, or if we were to goe in at some low dore, or

k 1 Per. 5 5.

1 Ad fear in Erem. Sec. 7

we were to

n

1-

n

re

is

th

15

Te

ut

ile

it-

is

of

th

nis

F 3

il

m De Abdicat

if a fword hang over our heads, and we under it. But the sword of Gods wrath hangs over the proud, and we are to enter in by the low dore. Christ, who hath left us an example of humility. To behave our selves humbly est Christum scire imitari, saith S. Bazil " is to imitate Christ; but to carry ones selfe proudly est Diabolo se similem prabere, that is to be like the Divell. And now I am fure thou hast no cause to bee proud, except thou meanest to be conformable to the divell, and abhominable to God. To conclude without any further application (because what hath beene spoken of this part hath (for the most part) beene by way of application. Let every true Israelite fill his Omer with this spirituall Mannah, Let every one take a poly of these Flowers home with him, nay let him compose himselfe (as it were) a poly of them. And let us all shew that we have the sweetnes of the Rose, and the whitenes of the Lily, by innocency

in our selves, and charity to others, that Christ that seedeth among the Lillies may take delight in us, and accept us for his Spouse to live with him for evermore. Which God grant we may all doe for Iesus Christ his sake our onely Lord and Saviour. To whom with thee, O Father, and thy blessed Spirit, be ascribed all Honour and Glory, might and Majesty now and for ever, Amen.

0

c

ne

o tiof

ne rue all of let e) a hat and ncy in

n Sol. Song 6.3.

FINIS.

